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Golborne  
Urban District Council

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**Annual Report**

of the

Public Health Department

For the Year 1954.



Golborne  
Urban District Council

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**Annual Report**

of the

Public Health Department

For the Year 1954.



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## GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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## LIST OF MEMBERS AND OFFICERS, 1954

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Chairman of Council	...	...	Councillor J. Armstrong
Vice Chairman	...	...	Councillor T.W. Jackson, J.P.
Chairman of Health Committee...			Councillor E. Richards, J.P.

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Members						Ward
Leonard Ball, J.P., C.C.	...	...	...	...		Heath
Ernest Merion Jones	...	...	...	...		do
William Naylor, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
John Armstrong	...	...	...	...		Park
Ernest Richards, J.P.	...	...	...	...		do
James Joseph Richards	...	...	...	...		do
John Barwell	...	...	...	...		St. Thomas's
George Henry Dearden, C.C.	...	...	...	...		do do
Richard Wilde	...	...	...	...		do do
Joseph Allen	...	...	...	...		Culcheth
John George Wedel	...	...	...	...		do
Gavin Alexander Cook	...	...	...	...		do
William Clayton...	...	...	...	...		Kenyon
Meredith Millington	...	...	...	...		do
Thomas William Jackson, J.P.		...	...	...		do
Thomas Bullough...	...	...	...	...		Lowton
Peter Harold Johnson	...	...	...	...		do
Reginald Thwaite	...	...	...	...		do

## OFFICERS

-----

Clerk: Mr. F. Martland

Medical Officer of Health: Dr. A.C. Crawford

Surveyor: Mr. J.B. Hoyle

Treasurer and Chief Rating Officer: Mr. T.J. Robson

Senior Sanitary Inspector: Mr. J. Blakeley

GOLBORNE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT



Medical Officer of Health:

A.C. CRAWFORD, T.D., M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., D.T.M.

Senior Sanitary Inspector:

\*J. BLAKELEY, Cert. S.I.B., M.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector:

\*H. LONGWORTH, Cert. S.I.B., A.R.SAN.I., M.S.I.A.

Clerk:

Miss M.R. Sumner



\*Qualified Meat and Other Foods Inspectors



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH FOR 1954

----- O -----

Public Health Department,  
Council Offices,  
LOWTON.

To the Chairman and  
Members of the Golborne Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

In accordance with statutory provision I submit herewith for your consideration and approval my Report on the vital statistics and sanitary circumstances of the Urban District during the year 1954; and have incorporated therein other details which relate to the more personal health services provided by the "Local Health Authority" -- the County Council -- under the provisions of the National Health Service Act, 1946, as these services support and enhance the health of the community in association with the more direct environmental measures which are the function of the Council as a "local sanitary authority".

On the whole the year has been uneventful from the health aspect except perhaps for a rather unfortunate and quite extensive outbreak of Sonne Dysentery which originated in one of the Infant and Junior Schools, to which a much fuller reference is made in the text of this Report in the section dealing with the prevalence and control of notifiable diseases. Analysis of the principal vital statistics shows little significant change, but it may be advisable in this preface to draw attention to general trends, and to assess their significance, and to suggest any probable causative factors.

The slight rise in the estimated mid-year population of 400, from 17,160 to 17,560 compensates for the almost similar decline which took place in 1953, from 1952, when the mid-year figure was 17,640; and as there has been no change in boundary the population density is virtually unaltered. Housing, however, has made considerable strides, the number of inhabited houses having risen from 5,188 to 5,443 -- an increase of approximately 5% -- during the year. The "natural increase" or excess of actual live births over total deaths, was 118, as compared with 120 in 1953, and a mean



quinquennial average of 86. At 319 the number of live births, with a rate of 18.2 per 1000 population, is the highest figure and rate for a number of years, and appreciably exceeds the mean numbers and rates for the quinquennium 1948-1952, which are 266 and 15.7 per 1000 respectively. Of these births, 11 were illegitimate, forming only about  $3\frac{1}{2}\%$  of the total number, a proportion which compares very favourably indeed with areas of a similar character. Still births, 13 in number, form 3.9% of the total live and still births, a rate which although very slightly higher than in 1953, is significantly higher than the quinquennial mean of 2.5% for this district in the years 1948-52, and for the country as a whole, which this year stands at 2.3%. The actual figures are small, however, and in conformity with the general principles of statistics too much reliance should not be placed upon rates calculated on such small actual numbers.

The total infant deaths (under 1 year of age) was 12, giving a rate per 1000 live births of 38, as compared with 29 in 1953, and a quinquennial mean of 35. Of these 12 infant deaths registered, no fewer than 11 babies died within the first 28 days of life, a neo-natal mortality rate of 35 per 1000; whilst 10 died within the first week of life. These rates compare favourably with those for England and Wales as a whole, which has a corresponding infant death rate of 26, and with a combined rate of 29 for the aggregate of all Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts in Lancashire; but once again caution is required in interpretation because of the low actual numbers in a relatively small population. Most of these deaths have resulted from prematurity with or without congenital malformations of which four were gross, and incompatible with life. Some resulted from difficult labour and Cerebral (intra-cranial) Haemorrhage, whilst in one case grave inattention at birth resulted in the baby being drowned in a closet within a minute or two. It seems clear from close analysis, that if this infant death rate is to be reduced, greater attention must be given to ante-natal care and supervision, and to the "health education" of the young mother-to-be and father-to-be. A wider knowledge of the causes of still birth and prematurity, and a wider appreciation of the risks run by the foetus in utero through factors operating on the maternal metabolism, must be the aim.

Despite the unsatisfactory still birth and infant mortality rate detailed above, it is at all events gratifying to record that no woman lost her life as the result of

pregnancy, miscarriage or abortion, i.e. there was no "maternal death" in the district.

The total of deaths registered and assignable was 201, a rate of 11.4 per 1000 population as an actual or "crude" death rate, and 13.7 per 1000 when adjusted by the comparability factor supplied by the Registrar General to correct for the age and sex distribution of our local community, and to bring it into bold comparison with England and Wales as a whole. Both the crude and the adjusted rates are rather higher than in 1953, when they were 9.3 and 11.0 per thousand respectively, and also rather higher than the quinquennial mean death rate (crude) for the years 1948-52, which was 10.8. This increase seems to have occurred principally as the result of increases in the number of deaths due to heart diseases, and also to strokes, accentuated by increases due to Bronchitis and to other defined and ill defined conditions.

The corresponding rates for (a) England and Wales and (b) the adjusted aggregate rates for Municipal Boroughs and Urban Districts in Lancashire are 11.3 per 1000 and 13.1 per 1000 respectively. Reference to the comparative statistical tables in the following pages will on analysis reveal the picture in full detail, and will it is hoped prove of considerable interest.

In regard to the major causes of death, these remain in numerical order of priority the same as for many years past. Almost one half of the 201 deaths - 95 in number - were due to diseases of the heart and blood vessels, of which no fewer than 25 resulted from vascular diseases of the nervous system, usually "strokes", 25 to angina pectoris and diseases of the Coronary arteries, and 34, to other diseases of the heart, i.e., rheumatic and other valvular etc., defects. Next comes the great cancer group, with a total of 33 deaths, of which 6 were of the lungs or bronchial passages, 5 of the stomach, 3 of the breast, and the balance of 18, of cancer affecting other sites in the body, but of this 33, 20 were of men and 13 of women. In third place, tying with the heterogeneous group of "other defined and ill defined diseases", comes the group of infections affecting the Respiratory System - Influenza, Bronchitis and Pneumonia, responsible for 21 deaths exclusive of Respiratory Tuberculosis; then deaths from violence of all kinds, 13 in number, of which 8 were due to accidents other than motor vehicle accidents, 3 to motor vehicle accidents, and 2 to Suicide. As an individual "killer" almost at the end of the list, comes Respiratory Tuberculosis causing 3 fatalities, a mortality little different from that of the



immediately preceding years, but infinitely lower than a generation ago.

Reference to the subsequent comparative statistical tables shows that the death rate due to Respiratory Tuberculosis is rather higher in Golborne (0.17 per 100) than in similar districts of Lancashire (0.13 per 1000) but close to the overall figure of 0.16 per 1000 for the County as a whole; that deaths from Non-Respiratory forms of Tuberculosis are rather lower than in both these areas; that the Cancer incidence (1.88 per 1000) is also less than in similar Lancashire areas (2.08 per 1000) and in England and Wales (2.04 per 1000) and that the infant mortality rate for the district comprised almost entirely of neo-natal deaths during the first month of life, is unfortunately greater than in either of the areas quoted.

Turning next to a consideration of the notifiable diseases, the overall total of 194 is a very satisfactory one if judged by the figure for 1953 (403) or by the quinquennial average (312); and only slightly greater than the 171 recorded in 1952. This total, however, would have been considerably less but for the occurrence of 55 cases of Sonné Dysentery resulting from a school outbreak of this disease which subsequently of course, almost inevitably involved the children's families. Apart from this, however, and somewhat increased incidences of Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Primary Pneumonia and Tuberculosis, the notifiable disease "front" was stable; there were no cases of Diphtheria, of Food Poisoning, of Enteric Fever, of Poliomyelitis or Meningitis, of Ophthalmia Neonatorum nor of Puerperal Pyrexia, and the incidence of Measles was very low also.

The year has shown continued progress in the conversion to the water carriage system of pail closets and privy middens, insanitary relics of the nineteenth century, and the era of Typhoid, Cholera and Dysentery, and all dwelling houses are gradually becoming modernised in this respect. Schools also have undergone modernisation in a similar way; so far as closets are concerned water carriage prevails. But the adequacy of closet accommodation and the standard of maintenance of several schools in this respect, are greatly lacking. Similarly, adequate ablution facilities are required, in reasonable, if not close, proximity to lavatories, with hot or at least warm water on tap, and a proper system of drying the hands, preferably by hot air or the use of proper towels. Modern research has made clear

the correction between enteritic and food poisoning infections, and the neglect of hand washing, and the infectivity of the closet environment. Health education measures at home and at school, precept and even the personal example of parents and teachers must largely be nullified in practice if the means are not ready to hand.

Housing has gone steadily ahead - or rather, has it accelerated, but appears at times to be barely keeping pace with dilapidation and demand; so that it is most sincerely to be hoped that the full possibilities envisaged by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act of 1954, will be seized, particularly in respect of property which is still capable of affording accommodation of a reasonable standard for some years. Only by such action would it appear that real progress can be achieved, slum property cleared, and current demand be satisfied. Unquestionably today lack of proper housing underlies an enormous amount of physical and mental illness, inefficiency, depression and even crime and delinquency.

Considerable progress has been made in providing an adequate supply of main-water in those parts of Golborne township until recently so inadequately supplied; but it must, unfortunately, still be recorded that the quality of the water leaves much to be desired by reason of the heavy suspensions of chalk and lime with which it is frequently charged. In my view this is fundamentally due to the technical inadequacy of the present plant at the Ince Waterworks as it has been maintained and operated; and the only answer would be to obtain the best consultant technical advice available in the country, and then to put it into practice under the most vigilant supervision, regarding all reasonable cost as a necessary and justifiable expenditure in the interests of the community, and one which will pay the most satisfying dividends almost immediately.

Pollution of Ellams Brook, with the consequent silting and fouling of its course, still requires a short-term remedy; its clearance and dredging would do much to ease the situation until such time as the Haydock East End Sewage Works, responsible for the majority of its pollution, is enabled to close on the initiation of the Sankey Valley Sewerage Scheme so far as this will enable sewage from the east end of Haydock to be passed direct to its tributary sewers.

For many years the lack of certain clinic facilities have been felt by both parents and children in Golborne and

Lowton, as for example, for the treatment in preschool and school children of minor ailments, dental conditions of all kinds, speech therapy, ophthalmic and orthopaedic defects and so on; such disabilities as have been found at school inspections, particularly dental and visual defects, have in the main and perforce been regrettably neglected, when treatment has been indicated. It is therefore most gratifying to know that a School Clinic is actually now building in the Derby Road estate area, and that in all probability the year 1956 will see it in operation, filling a very long felt need in the neighbourhood.

In concluding this preface I would like to tender to you personally, Mr. Chairman, and to every member of the Health Committee and of the Council my sincere thanks for the support you have afforded me, and my colleagues in the Health Department in all related matters, during the current year; and for the very active and earnest interest which you have displayed in our work. All our interdepartmental relationships have also been most cordial; the co-operation received from all fellow officers and their staffs could not have been greater. I thank them all and may perhaps be permitted to say how glad I am to be a member of such a team, if only in a part-time capacity. Finally, to the staff of my own Department, and particularly to Mr. Blakeley, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, I must express my humble thanks for their efficiency, comradeship and loyalty which they have, as always, continued to display.

I am,

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Yours obediently,

A.C. CRAWFORD,

Medical Officer of Health.



## SECTION A.

## GENERAL STATISTICS AND DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

## General Statistics

Area of district in acres	...	...	...	7,548
Population. Census 1931	...	...	...	13,748
Population. Census 1951	...	...	...	16,876
Population. Registrar General's estimate, mid. 1953	...	...	...	17,160
Population. Registrar General's estimate, mid. 1954	...	...	...	17,560
Number of inhabited Houses— Census 1931	...	...	...	3,140
End of 1954 according to rate books				5,443
Rateable Value, End of 1953	...	...	...	£81,805
Rateable Value, End of 1954	...	...	...	£84,224
Sum represented by a penny rate at end of 1954	...	...	...	£311

## GENERAL DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The Golborne Urban District extends from Ashton-in-Makerfield, Haydock and Newton-le-Willows on to the west to Irlam Urban District and Rixton-with-Glazebrook in the Warrington Rural Area on the east, a distance of about 7 miles. The southern boundaries are Newton Urban District, and Croft, in the Warrington Rural District, whilst the area is bounded on the North by Abram Urban District and Leigh Borough.

The geological features of the Urban District vary very greatly. Starting from the western end and proceeding eastward, we first find coal fields and red sandstone, with a covering of clay surfaced by a good depth of loamy soil. In the more central parts of the area there is a sandstone base with a decreasing amount of clay and in the eastern portions the



sub-soil becomes more sandy and the surface soil much more open, eventually becoming largely moss land.

The surface waters from Lowton and Golborne Wards mainly gravitate to Millingford Brook, which passes through Newton lake before entering Sankey Brook, whose ultimate outlet is into the River Mersey at Sankey Bridges.

Lowton St. Mary's, Kenyon and Culcheth are principally drained by streams flowing eastward into the River Glaze, which falls to the Manchester Ship Canal. The height above Ordnance datum varies from 100 to 150 feet.

For the purposes of Local Government, the district is divided into six wards, comprising St. Thomas's, Heath and Park wards in Golborne, and Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth Wards, each with three representatives, making a total of eighteen Councillors.

The principal industries in the district are Artificial Silk Manufacture, Coal Mining, Engineering, Jam and Sugar Confectionery and Agriculture. Employment has been reasonably good in these industries throughout the year.

## VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	149	159	308
Illegitimate	6	5	11
Total	155	164	319

Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population

Crude     ...     ...     ...     ...     18.2

Adjusted     ...     ...     ...     ...     16.9

STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	8	4	12
Illegitimate	1	-	1
Total	9	4	13

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) births - 39

## DEATHS

122 Males     79 Females     Total 201

Death rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population-

Crude     ...     ...     ...     ...     11.4

Adjusted     ...     ...     ...     ...     13.7

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

Deaths from pregnancy, childbirth and abortion - Nil.

Death rate per 1,000 total (Live and still) births - Nil.

## INFANT MORTALITY

DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	8	2	10
Illegitimate	-	2	2
Total	8	4	12

## DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	...	38
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	...				33
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births					181

## NEO-NATAL MORTALITY

Deaths of infants under four weeks of age	...	...	...	11
Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	...	...	...	35

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1954			
ANALYSIS OF INFANTILE MORTALITY			
Cause of Death	No. of Deaths		Age at Death
	M	F	
Asphyxia ... ..	-	1	2 Minutes
Asphyxia Neonatorum, Atelectasis and Cerebral haemorrhage ... ..	1	-	45 "
Atelectasis and Prematurity	1	-	3 Days
Cardio Respiratory failure, Intra-cranial haemorrhage	1	-	21 Hours
Cerebral agenesis ...	1	-	7 Months
Icterus Gravis Neonatorum and Rhesus incompatibility	-	1	4 Days
Hydrocephalus and Meningo- myelocele	1	-	2 Days
Prematurity... ..	1	1	6 Hours, 1 Day
Prematurity and Scleroma	1	-	3 Days
Spina Bifida ... ..	-	1	3 Weeks
Uraemia, Congenital obstruction of urether	1	-	6 Days

## STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1954

## Statistics for 1954 and the Period, 1949-1953

	Live Births		Deaths (all causes)		Still Births		Maternal Mortality		Infant Mortality		Neo-Natal	
	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Pop'n	No. Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Total Births	No. of Deaths Registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births	No. of Deaths registered	Rate per 1000 Live Births
Year 1954	319	+18.2	201	*11.4	13	39	Nil	Nil	12	38	11	35
" 1953	280	16.3	160	9.3	11	38	Nil	Nil	8	29	5	18
" 1952	243	13.8	196	11.1	2	8	Nil	Nil	8	33	5	21
" 1951	265	15.5	209	12.3	9	33	1	3.65	8	30	5	19
" 1950	286	16.9	173	10.2	6	21	Nil	Nil	9	31	6	21
" 1949	258	15.0	183	11.3	7	25	Nil	Nil	11	43		
Avg 5 yrs. 1949-1953	266	15.7	184	10.8	7	25	0.2	0.73	9	35	5	20

\*1954 adjusted birth rate (comparability factor 0.93) = 16.9 per 1,000

\*1954 adjusted death rate (comparability factor 1.20) = 13.7 per 1,000



## STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1954

## CAUSES OF DEATH

Causes of Death					M	F	Total
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	3	0	3
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	0	0	0
3.	Syphilitic Disease	...	...	...	1	0	1
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	0	0	0
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	0	0	0
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	0	0	0
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	0	0	0
8.	Measles	...	...	...	0	0	0
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases				1	0	1
10.	Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	5	0	5
11.	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus...				4	2	6
12.	Malignant neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	0	3	3
13.	Malignant neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	0	0	0
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms				10	8	18
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia...	...	...	...	1	0	1
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	0	0	0
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system...				13	12	25
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	15	7	22
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	3	2	5
20.	Other Heart disease	...	...	...	14	20	34
21.	Other circulatory diseases	...	...	...	7	2	9
22.	Influenza...	...	...	...	1	0	1
23.	Pneumonia...	...	...	...	1	3	4
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	11	5	16
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system				2	1	3
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	1	0	1
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea...				1	0	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	3	0	3
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	...	...	2	0	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	0	0	0
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	2	1	3
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases				12	9	21
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	...	...	...	2	1	3
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	6	2	8
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	1	1	2
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	0	0	0
Totals					122	79	201

(Registrar General's Return for District)



Total deaths of persons belonging to the District,  
 Males 122, Females 79 - Total 201  
 Compared with 160 in 1953 - An increase of 41  
 "Inward Transfers" - Males 52; Females 19 - Total 71  
 "Outward Transfers" - Males 2, Females 6 - Total 8.

# INWARD TRANSFERABLE DEATHS

(Showing place of Death, and numbers concerned)

	M	F
Astley Hospital, Astley ... ..	2	-
Atherleigh Hospital ... ..	11	6
Billinge Hospital ... ..	-	1
Cottage Hospital, Newton-le-Willows ... ..	2	-
Firs Maternity Home, Leigh... ..	1	-
Leigh Infirmary ... ..	2	1
Liverpool Hospital, Manley... ..	1	-
Manchester Royal Infirmary... ..	1	-
Royal Albert Edward Infirmary, Wigan ... ..	5	-
Royal Manchester Childrens' Hospital ... ..	1	-
Warrington General Hospital ... ..	14	6
Warrington Infirmary... ..	3	3
Whelley Hospital, Wigan ... ..	3	-
East Lancashire Road, Haydock ... ..	1	-
48, Etherstone Street, Leigh ... ..	-	1
75, Frog Lane, Wigan... ..	4	1
Nook Colliery, Tyldesley ... ..	1	-
	<u>52</u>	<u>19</u>

## STATISTICS FOR 1954

Comparative Birth, Death and Mortality Rates, with Analysis  
of Mortality and Morbidity

	Golborne Urban District	Lancashire Boroughs and Urban Districts	England and Wales
	Rates per 1,000 Home Population		
Births--			
Live ... ..	16.9	14.8	15.2
Still ... ..	0.74	0.41	0.36
Deaths--			
All causes, excluding Tuberculosis ...	13.53	12.65	11.12
Tuberculosis--			
Respiratory... ..	0.17	0.13	0.16
Non-Respiratory ...	0.00	0.02	0.02
Cancer--			
Lung and Bronchus...	0.34	0.35	0.37
Other Cancer ...	1.54	1.73	1.67
Maternal Mortality--			
Maternal Causes excluding Abortion	0.00	0.93	0.58
Due to Abortion ...	0.00		0.11
Infant Mortality ...	* 34	* 29	* 25
Neo-Natal Mortality	* 31	* 21	* 17
<u>Case Notifications</u> (Corrected)			
Scarlet Fever ...	0.91	1.20	0.96
Whooping Cough ...	1.48	2.62	2.39
Measles... ..	4.44	6.49	3.32
Pneumonia ... ..	0.34	0.49	0.60
Acute Poliomyelitis			
Paralytic ... ..	0.00	0.01	0.03
Non-Paralytic ...	0.00	0.01	0.01
Dysentery ... ..	3.13	1.50	0.72
Food Poisoning	0.00	0.16	0.20
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0.00		0.28
Tuberculosis			
Respiratory... ..	0.51	0.82	0.87
Non-Respiratory ...	0.22	0.14	0.13

\*Rate per 1,000 live births

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1954											
Births, Death and Infant Mortality Rates, 1945-1954											
	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	
Births ... ..	18.9	20.2	23.2	17.0	16.0	15.8	14.5	12.8	15.2	16.9	
Deaths ... ..	12.9	11.7	12.6	10.5	13.0	12.2	14.5	13.1	11.0	13.7	
Infant Mortality	36	40	48	50	43	31	30	33	29	38	

STATISTICS FOR THE AREA, 1954											
Deaths from Cancer, 1950-1954											
	1950		1951		1952		1953		1954		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
Golborne ... ..	6	3	2	4	8	8	8	6	11	4	
Lowton ... ..	1	5	6	5	1	5	3	2	5	5	
Kenyon ... ..	1	-	2	3	-	2	3	2	-	-	
Culcheth ... ..	1	2	2	2	3	7	4	1	4	4	
Total ... ..	19		26		34		29		33		
Rate per 1,000 Popu- lation ... ..	1.13		1.52		1.92		1.69		1.88		
% of Total Deaths...	10.98%		12.44%		17.34%		18.12%		16.41%		

## SECTION B

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASE

General comment on the prevalent zymotic diseases has already been made in the preface to this report and detailed information as to the incidence in the current year and for several years previously can readily be gained from the subsequent tables. It is felt, however, that the outbreak of Dysentery which occurred early in April, at one of the schools, merits special comment.

Dysentery

As indicated in the preface to this report an otherwise satisfactory infectious disease record has been marred by the occurrence of a moderate outbreak of Dysentery due to *Shigella Sonnei*, which was first evident among scholars at the R.C. Infant and Junior School, Golborne, affecting first and particularly the infant classes.

This outbreak came to light in the first instance, rather unusually, as the result of an apology tendered by the mother of one of the pupils at this school, to the Medical Officer conducting a diphtheria immunisation clinic, that her child was unable to be present because he had severe diarrhoea and stomach pains. Enquiries then revealed that a few other children were or had been similarly affected a few days previously, and that the numbers were rapidly increasing. Arrangements were then made forthwith to submit specimens of faeces from three of the affected children, chosen at random, with the result that two out of the three were returned as "positive" for the specific pathogenic organism, thus clinching the assumption, made on clinical and epidemiological grounds, that the disease was in fact a true Dysentery.

Immediately this confirmation was received full precautionary and preventive measures were instituted. Inspection of the school premises, especially of the sanitary conveniences for conservancy and ablution, revealed a most unsatisfactory state both of provision and maintenance; the ablution facilities were virtually nil, and the number of toilets totally inadequate. The Head Teacher was advised in regard to the precautions to be taken in serving school dinners, such as the thorough cleansing of all feeding utensils, strict supervision by the school-meals staff of the childrens' hand-washing prior to eating, the exclusion of children from helping in the service of meals,



and exclusion from school of any child developing abdominal symptoms such as "tummy pains", vomiting or diarrhoea. The situation having been explained fully to both teaching and school-meals staff, who immediately indicated their complete willingness to co-operate in every way. Specimens for bacteriological investigation were obtained from all concerned, with negative results. Meanwhile, visits were paid to the homes of all affected children, and arrangements made for the collection and transmission of specimens to the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester; full advice on the precautionary measures to be taken in the childrens' homes was given verbally to each parent at the time of these initial visits.

Naturally it became important at a very early stage to check any possible infection or "carrier state" in all persons engaged in the preparation and cooking of the school dinners (which reached the school from a kitchen situated in an adjoining area) although such a source of infection was never considered a probability, as the same meals were distributed to several other schools in Golborne, and elsewhere, without any report of untoward incidents. Nevertheless similar bacteriological investigations were undertaken amongst these kitchen personnel, with negative and satisfactory results.

All doctors practising in the Golborne area were advised of the occurrence of Dysentery in the district and asked to co-operate in every way, particularly as regards the notification of suspected cases, and the treatment, not only of the (often transient) acute phase of the illness, but of the convalescent carrier state, which of course presented a great source of danger amongst a community of such young children. I am most happy to record the cordial co-operation which this appeal elicited, and would like, here in this report, to express my grateful thanks and appreciation to the doctors concerned, because it is my firm impression that in this particular outbreak appropriate treatment of the carrier state did seem to be effective in the majority of cases, as reference to the subsequent figures will show.

The overall total of cases known to have been infected with *Shigella Sonnei* was 65; and the number of notifications received, 55, the balance representing "positive" cases in the "carrier" state whose symptoms had been so slight as not to have required or received medical attention at that time. Quite apart from home visits paid by Assistant Medical Officers and by myself, of which there is no accurate record, the number of visits paid by your Sanitary Inspectors was more than 500, the great majority of which were undertaken by Mr. Longworth, who displayed

unflagging zeal and energy in pursuing the necessary enquiries, in distributing outfits and in conveying bacteriological specimens, which numbered 139, to the Laboratory.

As indicated above, following submission of a first specimen for diagnostic purposes, each case was referred to the family doctor for a course of treatment lasting for a few days up to one week; a "rest interval" of 3-4 days was then allowed before submitting a second sample. If this was positive, the doctor was notified, and requested to prescribe a further course of treatment, following which the same procedure was repeated, and a third specimen submitted for investigation. The following data are of some interest in this connection.

	No. of Specimens Submitted	No. Positive	No. Negative
Prior to treatment	45	18	27
Following 1st Course of Treatment	63	29	34
Following 2nd Course of Treatment	29	3	26
Following 3rd Course of Treatment	2	-	2

Retrospective consideration of all the facts which have come to light, both at the time of the outbreak and subsequently, lead to the firm conclusion that it commenced during the last days of March, and the early days of April, initially affecting freely those children partaking of school dinners, that the infection originally emanated from a child who had suffered in mid March from a sharp attack of "diarrhoea", had returned to school, and whose turn in the "roster" to help to serve the dinners at school came on 29th - 31st March, (the first known cases were affected on 1st and 2nd April) that subsequent dissemination of the infection was assisted by the fact that its nature was neither realised nor reported, and by the unsatisfactory state of the sanitary and washing facilities at the school - a state of affairs which fortunately has since been rectified.

In addition to the appreciation accorded in the foregoing paragraphs, special thanks are undoubtedly due to Dr. Parker, Director of the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall, Manchester, and to his technical staff for help and guidance at every



stage of the bacteriological investigations; and lastly to Mr. Blakeley, the Senior Sanitary Inspector, also, for his help in maintaining general supervision, and the day to day control of numerous ancillary enquiries.

### Tuberculosis

Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of Tuberculosis are vested in the County Council, Specialist Chest Physicians of the Regional Hospital Boards and the general practitioners. The County Council, on direction of the Minister of Health, are responsible for both prevention and after care of this condition, but local sanitary authorities are still empowered under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, to take all necessary action to prevent the spread of infection and the Medical Officer of Health still retains specific duties and responsibilities under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952.

The Chest Clinic is situated at 13, Church Street, Leigh, and is open on Mondays and Fridays for diagnosis and treatment as follows:-

Old Patients: Mondays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon.

New cases: Fridays, 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Dr. E.H.W. Deane, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, and Nurse A. Herbert, are in attendance at these sessions.

The incidence of notified cases of Tuberculosis during the year was 13, of which 9 were due to the respiratory form of the disease, and 4 to non-respiratory - an incidence which is almost identical with the quinquennial mean figures.

It will be noted from the relevant tabulation that the number of cases on the "Register" - still maintained on a voluntary basis - at the end of the year was 94 as against 110 at 31st December, 1953. This is the lowest since 1948, and the downward trend, during the last two years, although assessed with caution, must be considered very satisfactory.

### Disinfection

In most cases of infectious disease, rooms, bedding and other articles are disinfected by Formic Aldehyde fumigation following the removal of the case to hospital, or when the patient is certified free from infection.

Arrangements are in operation with the Borough of Leigh for the use of their steam disinfectors when required for the disinfection of bedding and clothing.

Measles and Whooping Cough

The current year's incidence of both these diseases of childhood has been very low.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954														
Corrected Incidence of Notifiable Diseases (other than Tuberculosis)														
Notifiable Diseases	Total Cases at all ages	TOTAL CASES NOTIFIED										Hospital		
		Age Period - Years										Total Deaths	Cases removed to Hospital	Deaths in Hospital
		Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-34	45-64	65 and over				
Scarlet Fever	16	-	-	2	2	12	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-
Measles	78	2	8	14	11	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	26	4	2	3	8	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Pneumonia	6	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	55	-	1	5	5	23	4	2	4	3	1	-	2	-
Totals	181	6	11	24	26	81	5	3	7	3	2	-	5	-

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954									
Ward Distribution of Infectious Diseases									
Disease	Ward					Total			
	St. Thomas	Heath	Park	Lowton	Kenyon	Culcheth			
Dysentery ...	21	12	2	4	6	10	55		
Measles ...	5	6	3	7	4	53	78		
Pneumonia ...	1	-	2	1	1	1	6		
Scarlet Fever ...	4	3	1	1	3	4	16		
Whooping Cough ...	6	5	1	5	-	9	26		
Totals ...	37	26	9	18	14	77	181		

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

## Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality

Disease	1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		Quinquennial Mean 1949-1953	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Scarlet Fever	16	-	12	-	32	-	22	-	24	-	60	-	30.0	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	78	-	294	1	48	-	185	1	241	-	142	-	182.0	0.4
Whooping Cough	26	-	79	1	61	-	29	-	150	-	26	-	69.0	0.2
Enteric Group														
Fevers	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dysentery	55	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	0.6	-
Food Poison- ing	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ophthalmia														
Neonatorum	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1.0	-
Puerperal														
Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	0.6	-

(Table continued on Page 28)



(Table continued from Page 27)

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES														
Comparative Tables of Incidence and Mortality														
Disease	1954		1953		1952		1951		1950		1949		Quinquennial Mean 1948-1953	
	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths
Acute Poliomyelitis and Polio-Encephalitis	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	0.8	-
Meningococcol Infection	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.4	-
Primary and Influenzal Pneumonia	6	4	4	2	5	7	22	7	13	7	14	11	11.6	6.8
Erysipelas	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	3	-	1.0	-
Tuberculosis Respiratory	9	3	7	4	17	4	10	2	6	4	12	5	10.0	3.8
Tuberculosis Non-Respiratory	4	-	3	-	3	1	7	2	4	-	8	2	5.0	1.0
Total	194	7	403	8	171	12	279	12	443	11	267	18	312.0	12.2



PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954															
Age Groups of New Cases of Tuberculosis															
Type	Sex	Age Groups												Total	
		0	1	2	5	10	15	20	25	35	45	55	65		75 and over
Respiratory	Male	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	-	-	5
	Female	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	4
Non-Respiratory	Male	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
	Female	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS  
DISEASES, 1954

Incidence and Mortality of Tuberculosis

	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	Males	Females	Males	Females	
<u>No. of Cases Notified</u>					
Golborne	0	2	-	1	3
Lowton	2	-	1	-	3
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	3	2	1	1	7
<u>Deaths</u>					
Golborne	2	-	-	-	2
Lowton	-	-	-	-	-
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	1	-	-	-	1
<u>Removed from Register</u>					
Diagnosis not confirmed	4	-	-	-	4
Disease arrest- ed and patient recovered	4	2	4	2	12
Removed to other Districts	4	3	1	2	10
<u>No. of cases on Register at 31st Dec- ember, 1954</u>					
Golborne	9	17	12	16	54
Lowton	9	2	6	2	19
Kenyon	-	-	-	-	-
Culcheth	8	8	2	3	21
<u>Total</u>	26	27	20	21	94

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF  
INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1954

COMPARATIVE TUBERCULOSIS STATISTICS  
1954 and the period 1949-1953

	No. of Cases Notified		No. of Deaths		No. on Register at end of year		Total
	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	Resp.	Non-Resp.	
Year 1954	9	4	3	-	53	41	94
Year 1953	7	3	4	-	64	46	110
" 1952	17	3	4	1	68	54	122
" 1951	10	7	2	2	60	56	116
" 1950	6	4	4	-	55	49	104
" 1949	12	8	5	2	58	47	105
Average of 5 years 1949-1953	10	5	4	1	61	50	111

SECTION C  
SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply

The water supply of the district is derived from the following sources:-

Golborne - Water supplied in bulk from deep wells situated in Golborne, but controlled by Ince-in-Makerfield U.D.C. and distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Lowton - Water supplied in bulk by Liverpool Corporation through Abram, and also by Newton-le-Willows U.D.C. Both supplies distributed by Golborne U.D.C.

Kenyon and Culcheth - Water supplied and distributed by Warrington Corporation.

With the exception of two wells at outlying farms where no public supply is available, all the houses in the district are directly connected to the public water mains.

The water supply is constant and has satisfied the purity standards of the Ministry of Health. With the exception of complaints regarding inadequate pressure in the Lowton area and in the Park Road area of Golborne, the quantity of water supplied was satisfactory; a booster scheme to augment supplies in the areas is now in progress.

Complaints have still been voiced regarding the hardness and the suspended solids - (chalk) in the water derived from the Ince U.D.C. Waterworks, despite the introduction of a carbonization plant designed to rectify the chemical conditions resulting in this deposition. It must, however, be appreciated that this process cannot be expected to remedy the position immediately; it must of necessity, by the nature of the chemical changes involved, be a process of gradual improvement for some months or even years.

No action was necessary in respect of any form of contamination or plumbo solvent action.

Eighteen samples of water from the various public supplies were submitted for bacteriological examination and found to be satisfactory. One sample of water submitted for chemical analysis was found to be satisfactory, but showed heavy chalk deposits.



The average daily consumption of water per head during 1954 was 26.92 gallons, exclusive of water used for trade purposes.

Number of houses with piped supplies:- (a) Direct from mains, 5,441; (b) By stand pipe, 0; (c) From private supplies, 2.

### Drainage and Sewerage

With the exception of a number of houses situated at a considerable distance from any public drainage system, all premises in the district are now connected to the Council's sewers. Following the completion of the house connections scheme in the Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth districts, the conversion of privy and pail closets in these areas has proceeded steadily but it will be some years, at the present rate of progress, before these insanitary closets are completely eliminated.

### Rivers and Streams

The pollution of the Millingford Brook with sewage from the Ashton-in-Makerfield district still continues to a considerable extent, and necessitates frequent clearing of the sludge to avoid nuisances arising therefrom.

Another nuisance which became prominent during the year was the flooding of Ellams Brook at Newton Hollows, and just above this point where the brook forms a common boundary between the three authorities - Golborne, Newton-le-Willows and Haydock. In the first instance the bed of the stream has probably silted up as the result of sewage sludge, causing flooding, which in turn has been the cause of the decay and death of vegetation, including a number of trees, which have fallen across the bed and further impeded the flow of the stream. This matter certainly calls for an early remedy, as not only is a very pleasant natural beauty spot endangered, but a definite danger to public health also exists as the result of the presence of pathogenic organisms derived from the sewage.

### Closet Accommodation

Approximate number of the various types of closet accommodation provided in the district is as follows:-

Number of houses on water carriage system	...	...	5,329
do. middens	...	...	191

Number of closets attached to these middens	...	...	307
do. dry ashpits (excluding middens)	...	...	12
do. trough closets (Schools)...	...	...	12
do. pail closets...	...	...	65
do. waste water closets	...	...	1
do. moveable ashbins	...	...	5,361
do. fresh water closets	...	...	5,295

Thirty-one privies, nineteen pail closets and twelve trough closets were converted to fresh water closets during the year.

### Public Cleansing

The collection and disposal of refuse is carried out by the Local Authority and is under the control of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Three motor vehicles, two of which are of modern design, are employed on this work, and refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping.

### Schools

The unsatisfactory sanitary accommodation at certain schools has been improved by the conversion of the trough closets to individual fresh water closets; but further conversions and improved closet facilities are still required at three schools.

In some schools the cloakroom facilities and drying arrangements are still unsatisfactory, and the method of supplying drinking water, in the majority of schools, is still out of date.

### Housing

As will be seen from the detailed report of the Senior Sanitary Inspector, the survey of housing defects has continued throughout the year, details of defective houses being recorded and appropriate action taken to remedy the more serious deficiencies, principally under Public Health Act procedure.

Shortage of labour and certain materials have been the cause of delay in securing necessary repairs to insanitary property and high costs have also adversely affected such improvements.

Considerable overcrowding still exists and much hardship and ill-health results therefrom. The most frequent cause of

overcrowding is married members of families remaining in the home, or returning at a later date to live with parents, owing to the general shortage of houses. Growth of family has been the cause of overcrowding in some cases.

During the year 138 new houses and 10 bungalows were provided by the Council, and a further 84 houses were provided by the Coal Industry Housing Association for miners. 16 new private houses, 11 bungalows and 2 flats were also erected and occupied during the year. In addition one large house was converted into two separate self contained houses with modern amenities.

Seven houses were demolished during the year, all of which were the subject of demolition orders made during the year.

The scheme to provide a prototype hostel on the Derby Road Housing Estate, referred to in last year's report, is now being implemented and building has commenced. It is expected to open at the end of 1955.

There are eight Council housing estates and 1,538 houses and bungalows are owned by the Council. These are distributed as follows:-

						Houses	Bungalows
Golborne -	(a)	St. Thomas's Ward	...	...	...	743	28
	(b)	Heath Ward	...	...	...	128	-
	(c)	Park Ward	...	...	...	92	2
Lowton	...	...	...	...	...	94	-
Culcheth -	(a)	Culcheth	...	...	...	181	20
	(b)	Glazebury	...	...	...	54	-
Kenyon	...	...	...	...	...	188	8
Total						1,480	58

24 houses and 16 bungalows at Lowton Road, Golborne, 34 houses and 6 bungalows at Laburnum Road, Lowton, and 50 houses at Hampson Avenue, Culcheth, were also in course of erection at the end of the year.



## SECTION D

## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

(a) Meat and Other Foods

The practice established several years ago of supplying meat from a central slaughter-house outside the district still continues, and all food preparation premises, including cafes, restaurants and snack bars, are kept under observation by your Sanitary Inspectors. These premises have been kept in a clean condition during the year, and there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of hygiene and equipment at these premises.

(b) Milk Supply

The bulk of work undertaken in this sphere has been concerned with the inspection of dairies and sampling of milk supplies for bacteriological examination. In general these investigations have proved satisfactory but as will be seen later in the report a small percentage (approximately 5%) of samples have shown the presence of the tubercle bacillus. In these cases the assistance of the veterinary inspector has been sought, and in every instance following inspection of a herd the affected cows have been detected and destroyed. It is, however, very disconcerting to have to record even this small proportion of positive findings, which serve to emphasize the great importance of the frequent sampling of milk supplies. A further point of the greatest interest is that in every "positive" case the milk sample was ungraded, a type the sale of which is now prohibited in this district.

No cases of infectious illness have arisen in which milk has been the vehicle of infection and it has been unnecessary to prohibit the sale of any supply. No notices were served under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949.



SECTION E  
GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES  
FOR THE AREA

Diphtheria Immunisation

This work has continued throughout the year, being undertaken both by General practitioners in their surgeries, in the homes of patients, and also by the Assistant Divisional Medical Officers at child welfare centres and special sessions.

Responsibility, of course, devolves on the Local Health Authority - i.e. Lancashire County Council.

During the year 172 children under fourteen years of age completed a course of primary immunisation, of which 133 were under the age of five years.

In addition to these 187 children received "booster" injections.

The number of children under fifteen years of age in an immunised state at 31st December, 1954, was 2,760.

The locally estimated child population (under 15 years of age) - 4,248.

Percentage of child population immunised - 65%

Vaccination

During the year only 62 children, under 1 year of age, were vaccinated, all these vaccinations being successful. This total shows that only one in four of the children born during 1954 were given protection by vaccination, a situation which is most unsatisfactory. Despite intensive propaganda and personal advice by Health Visitors there seems to be but little improvement in public awareness of the value of this procedure.

Laboratory Facilities

General bacteriological investigations have been carried out during the year at the Pathological Department, Wigan Infirmary and at the Public Health Laboratory, Monsall Hospital, Manchester, which has dealt with pathological material submitted both by general practitioners and by the Public Health Department - e.g. milk, water and ice-cream samples.

The chemical analysis of water, milk and other foods is carried out at the County Analyst's Laboratory, Preston.

#### Examinations Made During 1954

				Positive	Negative	Total
Throat Swabs	...	...	...	-	1	1
Faeces	...	...	...	50	89	139

#### Ambulance Facilities

The County Council ambulance service has continued the conveyance of all types of case, i.e. infectious disease, emergency and consultative, within the Urban District boundary to hospitals, etc., elsewhere.

Part of the area, comprising Golborne township and most of the Lowton Area, is serviced from Newton-le-Willows ambulance station, whereas cases from Lowton St. Mary's, Culcheth and parts of the district bordering on the inter-divisional boundary are dealt with by the Leigh ambulance station.

This service has functioned in a very efficient and satisfactory manner.

The number of calls made on the ambulance service during the year was still further increased over those in 1953, and are as follows:-

Emergency Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	601
General Calls	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,314
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	9
							<hr/>
				Totals...	...		2,924
							<hr/>

#### Hospital Accommodation

The majority of cases of infectious disease requiring hospital isolation have been admitted to Warrington Isolation Hospital, which is administered by the Liverpool Regional Hospital Board, the body nominally concerned with hospital treatment in this district; but small numbers have on occasion been removed to other isolation hospitals at Astley (Sanatorium) and Eccles (Ladywell).

No hospitals are situated in the Urban District and cases requiring general medical and nursing care are treated at hospitals in Wigan, Leigh or Warrington.

Arrangements are in operation for the admission of maternity cases to the General Hospital, Warrington, Victoria Park Maternity Home, Warrington, Whiston Hospital, The Firs Maternity Home, Leigh, Billinge Infirmary, and St. Mary's Hospital, Manchester.

### MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE

This work, which comprises essentially such matters as the ante-natal and post-natal care of the expectant mother, health-visiting in the home, and the conduct of Child Welfare Centres, is the responsibility of the County Council, and its organisation and administration is part of the duty of the Divisional Health Committee and its officers. Care of the school-child under the provisions of the Education Act, 1944, is not usually regarded as the "Child Welfare Service", which deals solely with infants and small children under compulsory school age.

Within the Urban District responsibility is undertaken by Dr. H.G.M. Bennett, Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, and by two Health Visitors, Miss Keig, who is concerned mainly with Golborne township, and Miss Jenkinson, her colleague in the Lowton and Culcheth Districts. (The care of school children is also part of the duty of these officers in the capacity of School Nurses).

Details of the Ante-natal Clinics and Child Welfare Centres held in the Urban District are as follows:-

#### (a) Ante-natal Clinics

Old Council Offices, Worsley Street, Golborne.  
Alternate Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Staff Dr. Bennett, Miss Keig and Midwives concerned with cases.

Attendance, etc., during 1954

<u>No. of sessions</u>	<u>No. of individual women attending during year</u>	<u>Total Attendances</u>
33	108	459

(b) Child Welfare Centres

- (i) Old Council Offices, Golborne.  
Thursdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Dr. Bennett and Miss Keig.
- (ii) Youth Centre, Newton Road, Lowton.  
Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Dr. Ellis and Miss Jenkinson.
- (iii) Social Centre, Churchill Avenue, Culcheth.  
Alternate Tuesdays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Dr. Ellis and Miss Jenkinson.

Attendances, etc., during 1954

	No. of Children			Total Attendances		
	Born in 1954	Born in 1953	Born in 1951-49	Under 1 Year	1-2	2-4
Golborne ...	86	79	111	1,298	359	386
Lowton ...	30	26	48	466	134	355
Culcheth ...	58	49	62	822	259	235
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	174	154	221	2,586	752	976



### School Health

Schools are visited periodically by Dr. Bennett, Miss Keig and Miss Jenkinson, in order to carry out the statutory periodic medical examinations of school children, and also cleanliness inspections.

Unfortunately there are no School Clinics situated in this district, so that school children requiring attention for minor ailments, dental orthopaedic, ophthalmic, ear, nose and throat defects, under the Education Authority's Scheme of treatment, must be referred to the School Clinics in Ashton-in-Makerfield, Cadishead, Leigh or Earlestown. This position will however improve within the next year or two, as a School Clinic is to be erected on land near the new Derby Road housing estate.

### District Nursing Services

Domiciliary nursing services have been rendered during the whole of the year by the staff of district nurses and nurse-midwives administered by No 10 Health Division, Lancashire County Council.

The ladies concerned are:-

Mrs. E. Monks, 27, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Tel. No. Leigh 145.  
 Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth. Tel. No. Culcheth 2110  
 Mrs. E.M. Emerson, 46, Henry Street, Leigh. Tel. No. Leigh 620

### Midwifery Services

The Lancashire County Council is the Supervising Authority under the Midwives Acts, and the following is a list of the Midwives and Nurse-Midwives practising in the districts:-

Mrs. M. Branch, 54, Bridge Street, Golborne. Tel. No. Golborne 292  
 Mrs. E. Smith, 22, Beech Avenue, Lowton. Tel. No. Leigh 842  
 Mrs. D. Woodward, 23, Bevin Avenue, Culcheth. Tel. No. Culcheth 2110

### Maternity and Nursing Homes

One registered private maternity home is situated in the Urban District - i.e. Five Acres Nursing Home, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Regular inspection and supervision of this Home is maintained by the Divisional Medical Officer.

### Home Help Facilities

This permissive service is available under the Lancashire County Council Divisional Health Scheme, (No. 10 Health Division), to homes requiring such assistance by reason of the presence in the household of a case of sickness (including mental illness and deficiency) advanced pregnancy, a parturient woman, an aged person or a child under school leaving age.

The service is not a free one; contributions must be made by the applicants towards the cost of provision in accordance with scales adopted by the County Council. Many applicants are, however, old age pensioners in straightened circumstances whose incomes are below the minimum prescribed by the scales, who therefore receive this help free of cost.

Home Help Organiser: Miss P. Butler, Divisional Health Offices, The Old Rectory, Winwick.

### Mental Health Services

The care and after care of persons suffering from mental defectiveness and mental illness, and investigation of cases in which persons are alleged to be so suffering, is undertaken, under the County Council scheme, by the Duly Authorised Officer. Although supervision of such cases in the home is also undertaken partly by a lady mental health worker, her principal concern is with cases of mental defectiveness.

Duly Authorised Officers: Mr. P.D. Parker, 12, Kenyon Lane, Lowton. Tel. No. Leigh 377. Mr. F. Griffin, Post Office, Melling, Liverpool. Tel. No. Maghull 1335.

Lady Mental Health Visitor: Miss M.V. Phillips, The Old Rectory, Winwick. Tel. No. Warrington 3644.

A duty roster is maintained to cover times other than normal office hours. Should the services of the Duly Authorised Officer be required during these times, application should be made to the Ambulance Station, Tel. No. Newton-le-Willows 2013; the caller will then be advised how to get in touch with the Duly Authorised Officer on duty.

### Health Education

Health education, although specifically a responsibility of the County Council under Section 28 of the National Health Service Act, 1946, yet remains a responsibility of the Local

Sanitary Authority under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, and in this work the Public Health Department co-operates with the County Divisional Health staff.

Posters and pamphlets are displayed and distributed at Welfare Centres, Clinics, Factories, Canteens, etc., and film exhibitions are arranged from time to time at such centres.

#### Other Health Authority Services

Information or assistance on any of the services outlined above in this section may be obtained on application to the Divisional Medical Officer, No. 10 Health Division, The Old Rectory, Winwick, near Warrington. Tel. No. Warrington 3644-5.



ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY  
INSPECTOR - 1954

To the Chairman and Members  
of the Golborne Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the sanitary condition and circumstances of the district for the year ended 31st December, 1954.

The year has been one of great activity in the legislative field and the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, Slaughterhouses Act, and Slaughter of Animals (Amendment) Act, together with various regulations dealing with milk and other foods came into operation during the period. The new Acts and Regulations considerably increased the work of the department and created many new problems.

As in previous years, a considerable amount of time has been devoted to the inspection of food premises and the improvement of food handling processes. The resumption of private slaughtering in July, after a lapse of fifteen years, with the attendant requirement of ensuring the complete inspection of all animals slaughtered, added a further responsibility in this field.

A welcome change was effected by the introduction at the commencement of the year of the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No. 3 Order which prohibits the sale by retail of ungraded milk and requires that only milk of special designation shall be sold to the public. This scheme must result in a safer milk supply being provided for the general public.

The repair of defective dwelling houses was again one of the chief considerations of the department and although there have been delays in carrying out repairs due to owners not giving out the work on the receipt of notices and contractors failing to carry out the work promptly, shortages of certain building materials do not appear to have interfered with the repair of property to the same extent as in previous years. Many owners and agents, however, continue to complain that repairs cannot be carried out on present day rents in spite of the provisions of the new Housing Repairs and Rents Act and ignore all notices until legal proceedings are threatened.



For the second time since the war period the total number of defects remedied (1,119) exceeded the number of defects found (1,064) and the number of outstanding defects has been reduced from 176 at the end of 1953 to 121 at the end of the period under review. Whilst some satisfaction may be gained from this trend of events there is, however, no room for complacency as much repair and improvement work still remains to be carried out on sub-standard houses and the ever increasing cost of building work is having a detrimental effect on this aspect of public health.

It will be seen later in the report that in addition to the work outlined above relating to the repair of property an effort has been made to remove some of the houses which are unfit for habitation and Demolition Orders were made in respect of eighteen such houses, seven of which were demolished at the end of the year.

In connection with the Council's conversion scheme, the number of privy and pail closets converted to the water carriage system (50) was appreciably higher than the previous year (33) - a very welcome trend - and it is interesting to note that the majority of these conversions were carried out at "rented" houses in contrast to almost all such conversions being provided in "owner occupied" houses during the past few years.

The epidemic of Dysentery which started in one of the schools in Golborne during April created a considerable amount of work for the department. The investigation and subsequent "follow up" of the cases concerned entailed a total of 553 visits and the equivalent of one inspector's time was taken up with this work for several weeks.

The public cleansing service has endeavoured to provide a satisfactory service but in spite of a revision of collection areas and other efforts to speed up the service the period between collections of refuse became steadily extended to ten and sometimes eleven days. With the continued growth of the district during the past eight years and likely increase in the future it became apparent that this gradual extension of collection periods could not continue further and the restoration of a weekly collection of refuse could not be attained without additional transport and personnel. An additional refuse collection vehicle was ordered and put into service early in 1955.

In conclusion, I wish to accord my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued interest in all matters, affecting the environmental health services, and to the Clerk and other officers for their helpful co-operation and assistance during the year. To the Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Crawford, I tender my very sincere thanks for his continued help and support in the many aspects of the work, to the Additional Sanitary Inspector, Mr. Longworth, and the Clerical Assistant, Miss Sumner, for their loyal co-operation at all times.

I am,  
Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. BLAKELEY

Senior Sanitary Inspector and  
Cleansing Superintendent

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT

## Summary of Visits and Inspections

Accumulations of Rubbish	...	...	...	...	...	3
Animals Inspected	...	...	...	...	...	423
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	27
Butchers' Shops...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Caravans...	...	...	...	...	...	16
Cinemas ...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Closet Conversions	...	...	...	...	...	181
Council House Tenancies	...	...	...	...	...	244
Dairies and Milkshops...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Dirty and Verminous Houses	...	...	...	...	...	34
Ditches and Watercourses	...	...	...	...	...	6
Dwelling Houses under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	214
Dwelling Houses under Public Health Acts; Revisits...	...	...	...	...	...	568
Dwelling Houses under Housing Acts	...	...	...	...	...	65
Dwelling Houses under Housing Acts: Revisits...	...	...	...	...	...	112
Examination of Drains...	...	...	...	...	...	198
Factories...	...	...	...	...	...	52
Faeces and Urine Samples	...	...	...	...	...	192
Meat and Food Inspection	...	...	...	...	...	103
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	18
Grocers' Shops ...	...	...	...	...	...	146
Greengrocers and Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	9
Ice Cream Premises	...	...	...	...	...	84
Ice Cream Samples	...	...	...	...	...	32
Improvement Grants	...	...	...	...	...	6
Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	698
Interviews with Owners, Agents and Contractors	...	...	...	...	...	179
Licensed Premises	...	...	...	...	...	12
Milk Samples	...	...	...	...	...	103
Miscellaneous	...	...	...	...	...	179
Offices ...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Other Food Preparation and Storage Premises	...	...	...	...	...	67
Other Shops	...	...	...	...	...	2
Overcrowding	...	...	...	...	...	3
Pet Animals Act Inspections...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Piggeries and Keeping Animals	...	...	...	...	...	13
Public Conveniences	...	...	...	...	...	5
Recreation Grounds	...	...	...	...	...	3
Rag Flock, Etc., Act. Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	4
do do do Samples taken	...	...	...	...	...	3



Summary of Visits and Inspections continued

Refuse Collection	...	...	...	...	...	...	33
Refuse Tips	...	...	...	...	...	...	37
Rodent Infestations and Sewer Baiting	...	...	...	...	...	...	28
Salvage	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Shops Act Inspections	...	...	...	...	...	...	162
Street Vendors and Hawkers	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Smoke Observations	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Water Samples	...	...	...	...	...	...	18
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Total							4,581

Work Carried Out to Remedy Defects Discovered and Dealt  
with under Public Health Acts, Housing Acts, etc.

Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Housing Act	Other Acts & Orders
SANITARY ACCOMMODATION			
Privies converted to water closets	31	-	-
Pail closets converted to water closets	19	-	-
Trough closets converted to water closets	12	-	-
Additional water closets provided	15	-	-
Privy closets abolished	3	-	-
Pail closets abolished	2	-	-
Pail closets repaired	2	-	-
New outside water closet buildings provided	9	-	-
Defective water closet buildings repaired	8	-	-
Defective water closet supply pipes repaired	13	-	-
Defective water closet cisterns repaired	6	-	-
Defective water closet pedestals renewed	3	-	-
Ashpits abolished	26	-	-
Ashpits repaired	1	-	-



Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Housing Act	Other Acts & Orders
<b>DRAINAGE</b>			
Choked drains cleared ... ..	30	-	-
Defective drain repaired... ..	1	-	-
Drains reconstructed ... ..	7	1	-
Additional drains provided ... ..	97	8	-
Additional drain inspection chambers provided ... ..	3	-	-
New drainage systems provided ... ..	3	-	-
Drains provided with vent shafts ... ..	19	-	-
Vent shafts repaired or renewed ... ..	1	6	-
New eaves gutters provided ... ..	41	3	-
Defective eaves gutters repaired ... ..	11	2	-
Downspouts repaired or renewed... ..	12	2	-
New soil and waste pipes provided ... ..	18	6	-
New sinks provided... ..	7	5	-
New sink waste pipes provided ... ..	12	5	-
New urinals provided ... ..	1	-	-
New screen walls to closets ... ..	2	-	-
<b>HOUSING</b>			
New floors provided ... ..	11	8	-
Defective floors repaired ... ..	7	-	-
New window frames provided ... ..	19	6	-
Defective window frames repaired ... ..	16	3	-
Broken window cords renewed ... ..	9	-	-
Additional windows provided ... ..	-	8	-
Defective wallplaster renewed (rooms)	84	19	-
Defective ceiling plaster renewed (rooms) ... ..	25	11	-
Dampness. Provision of dampcourse ... ..	1	5	-
do Cement rendering of walls... ..	1	1	-
New staircases provided ... ..	1	1	-
Provision of handrail and repairs to staircases... ..	1	3	-
Ventilated foodstores provided... ..	2	3	-
Permanent ventilation provided to existing foodstore ... ..	2	4	-
Permanent ventilation provided to bedrooms ... ..	-	3	-
New washing boilers provided ... ..	-	1	-
Defective washing boilers repaired ... ..	2	-	-
New firegrates provided ... ..	6	8	-
Defective firegrates repaired ... ..	1	-	-

Work carried out	Public Health Acts	Hous- ing Act	Other Acts & Orders
Housing-continued			
Bedrooms partitioned for separate access ... ..	-	5	-
Other rooms partitioned for separate access ... ..	-	6	-
New doors and frames provided...	-	13	-
Doors and frames repaired ... ..	28	8	-
Internal walls rebuilt ... ..	-	1	-
External walls rebuilt ... ..	-	1	-
External walls repointed ... ..	23	4	-
New chimney stacks provided ... ..	-	1	-
Defective chimney stacks repaired or rebuilt ... ..	21	5	-
Defective roofs repaired ... ..	43	2	-
Yard paving repaired or renewed ... ..	5	4	-
Defective dustbins renewed ... ..	105	-	-
Dirty and verminous houses sprayed, fumigated and cleansed ... ..	4	-	-
Other premises sprayed ... ..	3	-	-
Houses demolished... ..	-	7	-
New bathrooms provided ... ..	9	6	-
Baths provided ... ..	9	6	-
Lavatory basins provided ... ..	15	6	-
Hot water systems installed ... ..	9	5	-
New cookers provided ... ..	-	2	-
Domestic water supply pipes renewed...	5	-	-
Other repairs ... ..	19	5	-
OTHER WORKS			
Insufficient sanitary accommodation in factories remedied... ..	-	-	1
Unsuitable or defective factory closets remedied ... ..	-	-	3
Limewashing of bakehouses ... ..	-	-	4
Limewashing of other factories ... ..	-	-	4
Totals ... ..	901	209	12

Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1953	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	176
Number of defects or nuisances arising during 1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,064
Number of defects or nuisances abated during 1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,119
Number of defects or nuisances outstanding at end of 1954	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	121
Number of complaints received	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	148
Number of informal notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	97
Number of statutory notices served	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	99
Legal proceedings	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACT, 1936

Details of Statutory Notices Served

Section of Act	Reason for Notice	No. of Notices Served	No. of Notices Complied with	Outstanding at end of year
39	Defective drains, sinks etc.	6	5	1
39	Defective eaves-gutters, down-spouts, etc.	24	17 (5 from 1953)	12
45	Defective closets	25	23 (10 from 1953)	12
75	Defective dustbins	13	13	-
93	Other conditions prejudicial to health	31	51 (29 from 1953)	9

Forty-nine notices on twenty-eight properties were not complied with on the expiration of the time allowed and the necessary repairs were carried out after notification that legal proceedings would be instituted.

Proceedings were instituted in respect of three notices on two houses but were subsequently withdrawn on the repairs having been completed in the interim period before the cases were heard.

The requirements of five other notices, chiefly in connection with the renewal of defective dustbins, were carried out in default.



## PUBLIC CLEANSING

Collection and Disposal of Refuse

During the year the refuse collection service has been carried on with three vehicles. The two Karrier 10 cubic yard side loading refuse collection vehicles purchased in 1948 have been used for the removal of dustbin refuse, and these wagons have continued to provide satisfactory service. The Ford Thames wagon has been used for the removal of privy and pail refuse, salvage and other special work. This wagon is now over eleven years old and consideration must be given to the replacement of this vehicle at an early date.

During the year it was not possible to maintain a weekly collection of dustbin refuse owing to the continued growth of the district and the interval between collections of this type of refuse became steadily extended to ten and sometimes eleven days.

The number of inhabited houses in the district has increased by more than 1,000 during the past eight years and whilst the additional work necessitated by the removal of refuse from the increased number of houses and other premises has been undertaken by the existing vehicles and staff during the past few years, it was apparent that the increasing period between collections of refuse could not continue and the re-introduction of a weekly collection would necessitate the provision of an additional vehicle and personnel. After consideration of this matter the Council decided to purchase an additional 12 cubic yard refuse collection vehicle which was put into service in February, 1955.

In addition to the increasing growth of the district, the absence of workmen due to sickness and other causes has had a detrimental effect in maintaining a regular refuse collection service. Probably as a result of the exceptionally wet year there were periods when 25% to 40% of the men were not working, often for several weeks together and it was most difficult to keep even a reduced service in being at times.

The trade refuse scheme, which came into operation in July, 1952, has been continued during the year under review. Under this scheme the contents of one dustbin are emptied free and a charge of 6d per bin is made for the removal of other refuse from business premises. Where loads of refuse are removed a charge of 15/- per load is made. During the year four loads and 1,016 bins of trade refuse were removed.



Refuse has been disposed of at four tips, situated at Winwick Lane and Moss Lane, Lowton, Dam Lane, Golborne, and on land adjoining the sewage disposal works at Heyshoot Lane, Glazebury. These tips are adequate for the district, and refuse is disposed of, as far as possible, by means of controlled tipping on the lines laid down by the Ministry of Health. Unfortunately, the absence of workmen due to sickness and other causes severely restricts this work at times and the provision of suitable mechanical equipment would greatly facilitate the control of the tipped refuse.

The total amount of refuse dealt with shows an increase of 67 loads and a total increased weight of 395 tons,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  cwts in comparison with the previous year, this increased tonnage being largely due to the larger quantity of refuse arising from the use of lower grade fuels and "picked" coal. Although the total number of privies emptied was reduced by 235 due to the gradual conversion of this type of closet to the water carriage system, the contents of 1,666 more dustbins were emptied during the year. Details are indicated below.

	1954	1953
Number of loads of refuse removed	2,787	2,720
Approximate weight of refuse removed	5,661 tons	5,265 tons
	$7\frac{1}{2}$ cwts	17 cwts
Total number of dustbins emptied	224,687	223,021
Total number of ashpits emptied	1,096	1,331
Total number of pails emptied	2,426	3,760

The total cost of the refuse collection and disposal service (year ended 31st March, 1955) shows a substantial increase over the previous year due to increased wages, haulage and materials. It will be seen that whilst the cost per head of population has been increased by  $3\frac{3}{4}$ d in comparison with the previous year, the cost per ton of refuse collected and disposed of has been reduced by  $1\frac{1}{2}$ d as a result of the increased tonnage dealt with during the year. Details are shown below:-

	1954			1953		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Total Net Cost (Collection and Disposal) ...	8,761	2	0	8,315	18	4
Cost per 1,000 of population ...	498	18	6	481	11	1
Cost per head of population ...		9	$11\frac{3}{4}$		9	8
Cost per ton ...	1	10	$11\frac{1}{2}$	1	12	2

One hundred and five dustbins were supplied to private houses for the replacement of defective bins, four of which were supplied in default of the owners having failed to comply with the requirements of notices served under Section 75 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Of the thirteen notices served under this section, no appeals were lodged against the requirements of the notices.

Eighty-one dustbins were also renewed at Council houses during the year.

## PUBLIC CLEANSING, 1954

## Monthly Analysis of Refuse Collection and Disposal

Month	LOWTON										KENYON and CULCHETH				
	Loads	Weight		Loads	Weight		Loads	Emptied			Loads	Weight		Emptied	
		T	C Q		T	C Q		Bins	Asphalts	Pails		T	C Q	Bins	Asphalts
January	106	220-15-0		60	101-7-2		60	4,508		16	60	119-10-2		4,643	65
February	97	185-5-0		86	146-0-0		86	8,074		9	86	77-16-0		4,813	-
March	119	224-10-0		70	139-9-0		70	9,185		7	70	124-8-0		5,025	53
April	107	201-3-0		69	119-1-2		69	8,295		-	69	117-16-2		5,303	30
May	98	214-5-0		77	152-9-3		77	8,957		27	77	111-8-1		4,384	3
June	98	211-5-0		68	140-15-0		68	8,357		31	68	153-12-0		5,284	75
July	67	152-0-0		51	107-4-2		51	5,918		25	51	84-7-2		3,540	-
August	85	205-10-0		69	159-3-3		69	8,252		19	69	113-7-1		4,500	3
September	94	195-15-3		56	119-2-2		56	8,193		28	56	120-2-3		4,412	42
October	98	222-0-0		67	140-11-0		67	9,400		31	67	150-2-0		5,568	22
November	95	224-12-0		70	157-19-0		70	9,280		27	70	178-0-2		5,957	67
December	105	241-18-0		76	176-16-0		76	10,114		40	76	152-1-0		5,619	50
Totals	1,169	2,498-15-3		819	1,659-19-2		819	103,533	19	260	819	1,502-12-1		59,048	410
															1,684

## SALVAGE

The collection of salvage has continued throughout the year and demand for waste paper has been constant during the period. The price obtained for this material steadily increased during the year from £5.10.0. per ton to £7.0.0. per ton and there were indications that this latter figure would be increased in 1955. As in the previous year, the demand for cardboard continued and this material was baled separately and sold at an increased price.

The total amount of waste paper and cardboard collected (174 tons,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  cwts.) was the highest tonnage of such material to be disposed of in any year since the inception of the salvage scheme in 1940 and was 37 tons 10 cwts more than the amount collected during the previous year. The income from the sale of this material was approximately double that of the previous year as a result of the increased prices obtained.

Rags and other textiles were in reasonable demand and the amount collected and sold ( $7\frac{1}{4}$  cwts) was more than double that of the previous year. The recovery of tins from the tips was continued when the necessary labour was available, but the high rate of absenteeism among the workmen due to sickness and other causes restricted this work and only 2 tons  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cwts were recovered compared with 7 tons  $7\frac{1}{2}$  cwts during the previous year.

The salvage bonus scheme for the workmen employed on the refuse collection and salvage services was continued during the year and a bonus based on the tonnage of paper collected was distributed at the end of each quarter. The total bonus paid during the year amounted to £369.15.4., equivalent to an additional payment of  $2\frac{1}{4}$ d for each hour worked during the year.

Material Salvaged

				1954			1953		
				Tons	Cwts	Qrs.	Tons	Cwts	Qrs.
Waste paper	...	...	...	138	6	1	126	3	3
Cardboard	...	...	...	35	15	2	10	7	1
Rags	...	...	...	0	7	1	0	3	0
Tins	...	...	...	2	7	2	7	7	2
Totals ..				176	16	2	144	1	2



Receipts from Salvage

				1954			1953		
				£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	...	...	..	905	0	9	530	9	6
Cardboard	...	...	..	286	4	0	67	10	9
Rags	...	...	..	5	1	6	2	2	0
Tins	...	...	..	2	7	6	7	9	5
				<hr/>			<hr/>		
				£1,198	13	9	£607	11	8
				<hr/>			<hr/>		

## HOUSING

The general standard of housing in the district varies somewhat. In the industrial area a considerable number of sub-standard houses of reasonable structure built forty to sixty years ago require improvement and modern amenities. Many houses of this type are also overcrowded. In the other parts of the district housing conditions are fairly good.

During the year 282 houses were inspected under the provisions of the Public Health Act and Housing Act 22 of which were recorded under the Housing Consolidation Regulations.

The chief feature of the year was the passing of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, which came into operation on 30th August, 1954. This legislation, amongst other matters, requires local authorities to submit to the Minister within one year proposals for dealing with houses in the district which appear to be unfit for human habitation and also provides for rent increases and the issue of certificates of disrepair in such cases where the premises do not comply with the standard of accommodation laid down in the Act.

Following the commencement of the Act much of your inspector's time was taken up with enquiries and inspection of properties to ascertain whether they complied with the new standard and although no applications for certificates of disrepair were received this was largely due to many landlords not claiming the new rent increase because of the fear of being served with a certificate of disrepair and having to spend a further sum on repairs to bring the premises up to the standard to justify the increase.

Five houses were completely reconditioned to the standard of a satisfactory house as required by the Housing Act, 1949 and these schemes have been carried out voluntarily by the owners; the works recorded under the Housing Acts on Pages 49 and 50 being largely carried out by this means. In all other cases essential repairs have been carried out. Owing to the present high cost of building repairs and the difficulty of complying with the "reasonable expense" clause of Section 9 of the Housing Act, 1936, action has had to be taken under the Public Health Act, 1936, in most cases.

Although the position has eased somewhat during the past year, some delay is still experienced in getting repairs carried out quickly owing to the failure of contractors to carry out repairs promptly after undertaking the work. In these cases much extra work is created by the necessity for repeated visits to houses where a contractor fails to carry out repairs in a reasonable time and involves unnecessary correspondence and telephone calls before the work is eventually completed. In many cases delays have been caused by the attitude of some owners who ignore all notices and correspondence until legal proceedings are threatened and then require a contractor to carry out the repairs at short notice to avoid police court proceedings. This attitude appears to arise from a grievance against the Rents Restriction Acts and the adoption of a policy of not doing repairs until they are made to.

The majority of these defects occur in houses which cannot be rendered fit at a reasonable expense and the constant attention to this sub-standard property takes more of your Sanitary Inspector's time than is often appreciated, coupled with the uncomfortable fact that one is merely touching the fringe of this problem and not getting down to the complete repair and provision of modern amenities in these houses.

Four applications for improvement grants under the Housing Acts, 1949 - 1954, were received during the year. In the case of one house, which was included in the list of houses proposed to be scheduled for demolition, a scheme for the complete reconditioning of the premises was approved for grant purposes due to the peculiar structural conditions appertaining and this work was carried out during the early part of 1955. The remaining applications were refused.

During the year Demolition Orders were made in respect of eighteen houses and seven of these have been demolished. Of the remaining eleven houses, seven tenants required rehousing and four houses had been vacated and were awaiting demolition at the end of the year.

No clearance areas were declared during the year.

Number of New Houses Erected during the Year

	Houses	Bungalows	Flats
(i) By the local authority	138	10	-
(ii) By other local authorities	-	-	-
(iii) By other bodies or persons	100	11	2

Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year

1.	(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts) ... ..	282
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	962
2.	(a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932 ... ..	22
	(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose	39
3.	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	22
4.	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... ..	195

Remedy of Defects during the Year without Service of Formal Notices

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the local authority or their officers ... ..	98
--	----



Action under Statutory Powers during the Year

- (a) Proceedings under section 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ... .. Nil
- (2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners ... .. Nil
- (b) By local authority in default of owners ... .. Nil
- (b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts.
- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ... .. 54
- (2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-
- (a) By owners ... .. 47
- (b) By local authority in default of owners ... .. Nil
- (c) Proceedings under section 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts, 1936.
- (1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made ... 18
- (2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders ... 7
- (d) Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936
- (1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made ... .. Nil
- (2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit... .. Nil



Housing Act. Part IV -- Overcrowding  
(Accurate figures not available)

(a)	(1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of year (approx.)	... ..	245
	(2) Number of families dwelling therein (approx.)	... ..	328
	(3) Number of persons dwelling therein (approx.)	... ..	1,365
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	... ..	56
(c)	(1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year		
	Council owned Houses - 17		
	Privately owned Houses - 47		64
	(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases		255
(d)	Number of cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after Local Authority have taken steps to abate overcrowding	... ..	0
(e)	Number of houses in respect of which certificates for the permitted number of persons were issued	... ..	26

Verminous Houses

During the year one Council house and three privately owned houses were found to be infested with vermin and the premises, bedding and furniture were treated twice with liquid insecticide containing D.D.T. In all the cases the infestation was of a minor character and the treatment was carried out by the Health Department. The premises were kept under observation after treatment and no evidence of reinfestation was found. Three other premises were also found to be bug infested and were treated in a similar manner.

DRAINAGE AND CONVERSIONS

During the year one hundred and eighty-one visits were made in connection with the conversion of privy and pail closets and one hundred and ninety-eight inspections were made in respect of the examination and repair of drains. In addition to thirty-nine choked drains being cleared, eight

drains were reconstructed entirely and one hundred and five additional drains were provided, largely in connection with the conversion scheme. Twenty-five ventilation shafts were provided in connection with these drains. In three cases a new system of drainage was provided and the premises were connected to the sewer.

Thirty-one privies and nineteen pail closets were converted to fresh water closets, and fifteen additional water closets were provided during the year. Nine new closet buildings were provided in connection with these conversions. Three privy closets and two pail closets were also demolished and two pail closets were repaired as a temporary measure. In addition, twelve school trough closets were converted to individually flushed water closets during the year.

The number of conversions carried out is somewhat higher than the figure for the previous year (33) and it is interesting to note that more than half of these water closets have been provided for the occupants of "rented" houses in contrast to the majority being owner occupied houses during past years. This is a welcome trend and it is hoped that other owners of this type of property will provide water closets and eliminate these highly insanitary and objectionable privy and pail closets at an early date.

It will be appreciated that many owners of this type of property are unable to carry out this work on present rents after providing for the execution of essential repairs, and the Council have continued the increased conversion grant of £10 with a view to providing an incentive to owners to convert privy and pail closets to the water carriage system.

It is also pleasing to record the conversion of twelve insanitary trough closets to individually flushed water closets at one of the schools in the district.

#### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Total number of cases of infectious diseases investigated	87
Total number of visits made ... ..	698
Number of houses fumigated ... ..	19
Number of library books disinfected ... ..	3
Number of school books disinfected ... ..	7
Number of pathological specimens collected and submitted	139

Of the total number of visits shown above 553 of these were made in connection with the outbreak of Dysentery which occurred in Golborne township on 14th April and continued until the middle of August.

Full details of all cases are obtained and recorded, and rooms, bedding and other articles are fumigated with Formaldehyde after the patient is removed to hospital or when the patient is certified free from infection.

#### WATER SUPPLY

Number of dwelling houses with piped supply	...	...	5,441
Number of dwelling houses supplied from wells	...	...	2
Number of dwelling houses supplied by stand pipe	...	...	0

One private well water supply was closed during the year and a public supply provided at the premises. Of the two private supplies shown above one well was filled up and closed on the demolition of the house early in 1955, and the remaining well continues to be used for agricultural purposes. A sample of water from this latter supply was found to be satisfactory.

Eighteen samples of water from the main public supplies in the district were submitted for bacteriological examination, all of which were found to be satisfactory. One sample of water submitted for chemical analysis was found to be satisfactory, but showed heavy chalk deposits.

#### INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

##### Meat and Other Foods

Following the de-control of meat supplies at the end of June the emergency measure of slaughtering all animals in a central slaughterhouse outside the area of the Golborne Urban District was discontinued and private slaughtering was resumed on 1st July at one small private slaughterhouse which was already licensed.

For a few weeks after the resumption of private slaughtering the amount of inspection work was variable but it soon became apparent that in spite of the small number of animals slaughtered three or four and sometimes five visits per week were required to ensure 100 per cent inspection of all animals slaughtered.

A survey was made of all the disused slaughtering accommodation in the district, but no applications for the re-occupation of these premises were received during the year and the majority of butchers continued to purchase their meat supplies from outside the district.



The following table indicates the number of animals slaughtered and inspected during the year

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1954					
Animals Inspected and Carcasses Condemned					
	Cattle -ex- cluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	26	21	6	309	61
Number Inspected ...	26	21	6	309	61
<u>All diseases except Tuber- culosis-</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	4	-	10	7
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuber- culosis . . . . .	3.84	19.04	-	3.23	13.11
<u>Tuberculosis only -</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1	3	-	-	-
Percentage of number inspected affected with Tuberculosis ... ..	3.84	14.28	-	-	-

Five of the pigs shown above were slaughtered prior to 1st July.



Details of Meat Condemned  
1954

TuberculosisOther Diseases

Cattle,  
excluding Cows

Heads - 1

Livers - 1 (Parasitic)

Cows

Heads - 1

Livers - 3 (Parasitic)

Lungs - 2

Livers - 1 (Abscesses)

Sheep

Lungs - 2 (Parasitic)

Livers - 8 (Parasitic)

Pigs

Carcase and all  
organs - 1 (Bruising)  
Foreleg - 1 (Broken)  
Lungs - 4 (Pneumonia)  
Livers - 2 (Cirrhosis)

All condemned meat was stained with green dye and removed to a licensed plant for conversion to fertilisers.

Sixty-four visits were made to the slaughterhouse for meat inspection purposes.

Total weight of meat and offal condemned:- 2 Cwts 3 Qtrs  
14 lbs.

Unsound Food

The following table indicates the various foodstuffs found to be unfit for human consumption at shops and warehouses, all of which were voluntarily surrendered by the owners and destroyed.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1954			
Food Unfit for Human Consumption			
Nature of Food	Type of Packing	Quantity Condemned	
		Lbs.	
Apricots ... ..	6-lb. tin	6	
	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tin	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Apricot Pulp ... ..	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. tins	13	
Beans ... ..	10 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tin	8 $\frac{3}{4}$	
	1-lb. tins	8	
Breakfast Oats ... ..	2-lb. pkts.	18	
Brisling ... ..	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ -oz. tin	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cheese Spread ... ..	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. pkt.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Cooked Ham ... ..	6-lb. tin	6	
	19 tins	237 $\frac{1}{4}$	
	(Various Weights)		
Cooked Pressed Beef ... ..	4-lb. tin	4	
Corned Beef... ..	4-lb. tins	8	
	6-lb "	36	
	7-lb "	21	
Desiccated Coconut... ..	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. pkt.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$	
Evaporated Milk ... ..	1-lb. tins	5	
Gooseberries ... ..	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	2 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Grapes ... ..	1-lb. tins	5	
	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tin	1 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Grape Fruit Segments ... ..	12-oz. jars	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Greengages ... ..	14 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Jellied Veal ... ..	6-lb. tins	12	
Minced Meat Loaf ... ..	12-oz. jars	3	
Ox Tail Soup ... ..	15-oz. tin	1	
Ox Tongue ... ..	6-lb. tins	18	
Peaches ... ..	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	2	
Peach Pulp ... ..	6 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins	68 $\frac{3}{4}$	
Peach Pulp Slices... ..	6-lb. tins	24	
Peach Slices ... ..	7-lb. tin	7	
Pears ... ..	15 $\frac{1}{2}$ -oz. tins	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	
	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ -lb. tins	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	
	10-oz. tins	1 $\frac{1}{4}$	
Peas ... ..	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ -lb. tins	5	
Pineapple ... ..	6-lb. 6-oz. tins	70 $\frac{1}{4}$	

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1954					
Food Unfit for Human Consumption					
Nature of Food				Type of Packing	Quantity Condemned
					Lbs.
Pineapple Pieces	...	...		6-lb.6-oz. tins	44 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
				40-lb. tin	40
Pineapple Pulp	...	...		6 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -lb. tins	290 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Plums	...	...	...	1-lb.4-oz. tins	6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Plum Tomatoes...	...	...		6 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -oz. tins	2 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
				8-oz. tins	1 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
				14 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -oz. tins	7 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
				2-lb.2-oz. tins	10 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>8</sub>
Raspberries	...	...	...	14-oz. tins	1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
Rice	...	...	...	1-lb. pkts.	7
Sausages	...	...	...	-	6
Self Raising Flour	...	...		3-lb. bag	3
Steak Pudding...	...	...		8-oz. tin	<sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
Stewed Steak	...	...	...	15 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub> -oz. tins	3 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub>
				1-lb. tins	6
Tomatoes	...	...	...	15-oz. tin	1
				1 <sup>3</sup> / <sub>4</sub> -lb. tins	3 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>2</sub>
				2-lb.2-oz. tins	4 <sup>1</sup> / <sub>4</sub>

Thirty-nine visits were made in connection with the inspection of food in shops and warehouses during the year.

Total weight of foodstuffs condemned:- 9 Cwts 1 Qtr 9 lbs.

#### Food Preparation and Storage Premises

Frequent inspection of premises used for the preparation, storage and sale of food has been carried out during the year. A total of 581 visits were made for the purpose, of which 378 were in respect of cafes, bakehouses and other food preparation premises, and much time has been spent in advising all food traders of the dangers arising from the careless handling of food in the course of preparations, storage and sale. The gradual progress made during the past few years in the improvement of food handling processes has been well maintained during the period under review.

Great stress has been placed on the need of a high standard of personal hygiene for persons employed in these trades, and the majority of food handlers fully appreciate this matter. Most shopkeepers now realise that the general

public are becoming "clean food" conscious and only by maintaining a high standard of cleanliness can they hope to retain the goodwill of their customers.

Considerable improvements have been effected in premises and equipment, and special mention must be made of the co-operation of certain traders who have reconstructed or altered their shops to comply with modern hygienic standards for premises and equipment, which should be an example to other traders to bring their premises up to the required standard.

Although the majority of food traders are making every effort to improve and modernise their premises there are some, however, who are only maintaining a reasonable standard because they are compelled to do so. Three notices were served regarding unsatisfactory cleanliness of premises, all of which were complied with within the time specified.

The number of food premises, classified according to type of business, in the district at the end of the year was as follows:-

General Grocers and Provision Dealers ...	78
Greengrocers and Fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game, etc.) ...	4
Fishmongers... ..	-
Meat Shops (Butchers, Purveyors of cooked and preserved meat, tripe etc.) ...	15
Bakers and/or Confectioners ...	15
Fried Fish Shops ...	14
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice cream, etc. ...	18
Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments... ..	60
Total ...	<u>204</u>

Pamphlets dealing with the various aspects of clean food production were distributed to food traders during the year.

#### Registration of Premises

The provisions of Section 14 of the Lancashire County Council (General Powers) Act, 1951, were not adopted by the Council and registration of premises and persons continue to be effected under Sections 115 and 116 of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938.



During the year three fish friers and one hawker of fish, fruit and vegetables were registered under the 1938 Act. With the exception of premises associated with the manufacture and sale of ice cream which are referred to later in the report, the number of food preparation premises and hawkers on the register at the end of the year was as follows:-

Manufacturers of Meat and Fish Products - Fish Friers	...	14
Butchers	...	9
Grocers	...	7
Confectioners...		5
Hawkers of Meat Products, Fish, Fruit and Vegetables resident in the district	... ..	10
Hawkers' Storage Premises	... ..	8
Hawkers of Meat Products, Fish Fruit and Vegetables from other districts...	... ..	27

#### Food Byelaws

Model byelaws relating to the Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and the Sale of Food in the Open Air are in operation in the district. In four cases warnings were given to shopkeepers regarding unprotected foodstuffs displayed so as to be liable to contamination, but generally there has been a gradual improvement in the standard of food handling since the byelaws were put into operation, and this is largely a question of education of all concerned in the food trades in the necessity for hygienic food handling practices.

#### Bakehouses

Number of bakehouses on register	... ..	15
Number of inspections made during the year	... ..	27

Generally these bakehouses are in good structural condition and, with the exception of the following defects, all statutory requirements appear to have been carried out and the premises kept in a satisfactory state.

#### Defects Found

Limewashing not carried out	... ..	4
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#### MILK SUPPLY

On January 1st, 1954, the Milk (Special Designation) (Specified Areas) No 3 Order came into operation in Golborne Urban District and surrounding areas, from which date the

sale of raw or undesignated milk was prohibited. All the farmers and dairymen in the district were required to supply only designated milk in sealed bottles or containers and this change of practice was carried out with little inconvenience to the public.

With all raw milk now being sent to pasteurisation depots outside the district, the number of sources of supply of designated milk coming into the area has been considerably reduced and the whole scheme must result in a safer milk supply.

In addition to dairies situated on farm premises there are two dairies registered in the district, both of which are small and used for the storage of milk from the wholesale supplier, pending delivery by retail. The use of one dairy was discontinued during the year.

Seventy-two visits were made to dairies and milk shops during the year.

Three new distributors were registered during the year and the total number of registered milk distributors is seventy, these persons operating from the following premises:-

(a)	Dairies in the district	...	...	...	2
(b)	Dairy farms in the district	...	...		11
(c)	Shops in the district other than dairies				37
(d)	Premises outside the district	...	...		20

#### Milk (Special Designations) Orders

The Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, and the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, control the licensing and distribution of designated milk, the former regulation relating to Tuberculin Tested and Accredited Milk and the latter Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk.

Eighteen licences were granted under these Regulations, chiefly in connection with the sale of Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk, and the total number of Licences issued during the year was as follows:-

Tuberculin Tested - Dealers	...	...	...	...	9
Supplementary	...	...	...		13
Pasteurised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	12
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	20
Sterilised - Dealers	...	...	...	...	42
Supplementary	...	...	...	...	13

The production and sale of Accredited milk was prohibited after the end of September, 1954.

### Milk Sampling

During the year all the milk produced in the district, and milk supplies from outside areas have been sampled regularly. These samples have been submitted for the Tuberculosis Test and Methylene Blue Test, and in the case of heat treated milk, the Phosphatase Test for Pasteurised Milk and the Turbidity Test for Sterilised Milk.

A total of 103 samples were taken during the year and the results of these are as follows:-

<u>Type of Milk</u>	<u>Methylene Blue</u> <u>Test</u>		<u>Tuberculosis</u> <u>Test</u>		<u>Turbidity</u> <u>Test</u>
	Satis- factory	Unsatis- factory	Negative	Positive	Satisfactory
Tuberculin Tested	16	4	20	-	-
Accredited ...	4	-	4	-	-
Ungraded ...	32	2	28	3	-
Pasteurised ...	28	-	24	-	-
Sterilised ...	-	-	-	-	15

Thirty samples of Pasteurised milk also passed the Phosphatase Test but the Methylene Blue Test on two samples was rendered void due to the atmospheric shade temperature being over 65° F.

Three samples of ungraded milk were found to contain evidence of Tuberculous infection, and immediate notification was sent to the Divisional Veterinary Inspector of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, who carried out an examination of the herd in each case. A cow was removed from one of the herds concerned and slaughtered under the Tuberculosis Order, 1938, whilst in the two remaining cases the cows had been sold in the interim period between the sample being taken and the commencement of the investigation, which proved negative.

No notices were required under Article 20 of the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949, in the above three cases as all raw milk supplies are pasteurised in accordance with Specified Area requirements.

Details of six unsatisfactory samples submitted for the Methylene Blue Test were referred to the Milk Production Officer of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee for investigation and remedy.

The following table shows the results of milk samples taken, together with comparative figures for the previous five years.



INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD, 1954													
Examination of Milk Samples, 1949-1953 & 1954													
Type of Milk	Year	No. of Samples taken	Nature of Test Carried out						Tuberculosis				
			Methylene Blue		Phosphatase		Turbidity		Neg-ative	Pos-itive	Spoilt		
			Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.	Satis.	Un-Satis.					
Tuberculin Tested	1954	20	16	4	-	-	-	-	20	-	-	-	
	1953	15	10	5	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	
	1952	10	8	2	-	-	-	-	10	-	-	-	
	1951	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	-	
	1950	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	
	1949	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	
Accredited	1954	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	
	1953	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	
	1952	5	5	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	-	-	
	1951	7	6	1	-	-	-	-	5	1	1	-	
	1950	10	7	3	-	-	-	-	9	1	-	-	
	1949	13	10	3	-	-	-	-	12	-	-	1	
Ungraded	1954	34	32	2	-	-	-	-	28	3	-	3	
	1953	46	43	3	-	-	-	-	39	7	-	-	
	1952	42	38	4	-	-	-	-	42	-	-	-	
	1951	50	48	2	-	-	-	-	46	2	-	2	
	1950	51	45	6	-	-	-	-	47	2	-	2	
	1949	46	35	11	-	-	-	-	52	2	-	1	
Pasteurised	1954	30	28+	-	30	-	-	-	24	-	-	-	
	1953	19	18*	-	19	-	-	-	14	-	-	-	
	1952	19	19	-	18	1	-	-	4	-	-	-	
	1951	5	5	-	5	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	
	1950	2	2	-	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	
	1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Sterilised	1954	15	-	-	-	-	15	-	-	-	-	-	
	1953	21	-	-	-	-	21	-	-	-	-	-	
	1952	9	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1951	3	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1950	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	1949	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

\*Test on one sample void - Atmospheric shade temperature over 65° F.

+Test on two samples void - do do do do



## ICE CREAM

The premises of one person are registered for the manufacture of ice cream from a complete cold mix powder. There is no heat treated ice cream manufactured in the district.

As in previous years a number of applications were received from grocers and occupiers of small mixed shops for registration of premises for the sale of ice cream under the provisions of the Lancashire County Council (Rivers Board and General Powers) Act, 1938, and 7 premises were registered for the sale of pre-packed ice cream only.

The total number of vendors of ice cream is 46 of which 45 sell pre-packed ice cream only. In addition five manufacturers from outside the district operate mobile vehicles in the Golborne Urban District and retail loose ice cream.

These premises and vehicles are inspected regularly and 84 visits were made for this purpose, more attention having, of course, to be paid to the sale of loose ice cream than the pre-packed product. In all cases the regulations and codes of practice were reasonably complied with.

Some difficulty has been experienced during the year in obtaining samples as many vendors ceased to sell ice cream due to the long period of wet weather when the demand for this commodity was negligible. This difficulty has been even more pronounced in the case of mobile vehicles from outside the district who often operate at irregular hours and prevent the submission of a sample to the Public Health Laboratory within the requisite period.

During the year thirty-two samples of ice cream were submitted for bacteriological examination. Of these samples, three were of loose ice cream all of which were classified as Grade 1. The remaining twenty-nine samples were of pre-packed products and were classified as twenty-three Grade 1, two Grade 2 and four Grade 3. The four latter samples cannot be accepted as satisfactory and representations were made to the manufacturers, all being outside our district, and "follow up" samples taken.

The grading of ice cream samples over the past five years is as follows:-

	<u>1954</u>	<u>1953</u>	<u>1952</u>	<u>1951</u>	<u>1950</u>
Grade 1	26	37	21	24	6
" 2	2	3	8	4	1
" 3	4	-	-	-	1
" 4	-	1	1	1	-
Totals	<u>32</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>29</u>	<u>8</u>

#### FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938

The County Council is the authority responsible for carrying out the provisions of the above Act relating to food sampling, and I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for particulars of the following samples which have been taken in the district and submitted for analysis:-

A total of 98 samples was obtained, 47 being milk and the remaining 51 samples comprising:-

1 Arrowroot	1 Desiccated Coconut
1 Barley	2 Flour, Plain
2 Beef Sausages	2 Flour, Self Raising
1 Bread	1 Fruit, Dried
1 Brown Bread	2 Glaze Cherries
2 Borax	1 Ground Almonds
3 Camphorated Oil	3 Lemon Curd
1 Candied Peel	6 Margarine
1 Cheese	1 Milk Chocolate Assorted Fingers
1 Cheese, Processed	1 Mincemeat
2 Cheese Spread	1 Mineral Water
1 Cherry Flavoured Cordial	1 Olive Oil
1 Chocolate	1 Orange Squash
1 Concentrated Orange Drink	1 Peas, Canned
with Glucose	1 Pork Sausage
2 Cream, Canned	1 Runner Beans, Canned
1 Dates	2 Sweets
1 Dates, Stoned	

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine, with the exception of the following:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
1 Beef sausages	Contained 120 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide without declaration)	Vendor cautioned
1 Pork sausages	Meat content 62.5%	No action taken
1 Concentrated orange drink with glucose	Glucose solids not more than 2% yet claim made "with added glucose"	Packers communicated with.
1 Orange Squash	Contained 390 parts per million of sulphite preservative (expressed as sulphur dioxide) i.e. 40 parts per million in excess of permitted limit.	Packers cautioned
1 Cheese Spread	Contained only 43.9% fat on the dried matter	No action taken

#### SHOPS ACT, 1950

Under this Act the Golborne Urban District is not a "local authority" for the purposes of the Act, having a population of less than 20,000 and responsibility is placed on the County Council, except for Section 38, which deals with sanitary conveniences, ventilation and temperature of shops, and is the direct responsibility of the sanitary authority.

Under delegated powers from the County Council, 161 Shops Act inspections were made during the year. These inspections deal with the working hours, weekly half holidays and intervals for meals and rest of all young persons employed about the business of a shop, and other provisions relating to the health and comfort of all shop workers. Details of each inspection are forwarded to the County Medical Officer of Health and any contraventions found are dealt with directly by the County Council.

In connection with the sanitary provisions of the Shops Act, improved heating arrangements were provided at one shop and defective sanitary conveniences were repaired at three shops. No action was required in the case of other shops.



## LICENSED PREMISES

As outlined in last years' report work had been commenced to remedy insufficient or insanitary closet and refuse storage accommodation at licensed premises. At one public house entirely new sanitary accommodation has been provided for males and females, with separate water closet and bathroom for the tenant. At two other licensed premises the existing sanitary accommodation and refuse storage arrangements were improved. These and other licensed premises visited were found to be kept in a clean condition.

## RAG FLOCK AND OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

This Act governs the conditions under which rag flock is manufactured and stored, and controls the use of this and other filling materials for upholstery and other purposes. Standards of cleanliness of filling materials are prescribed by Regulation and certain premises require to be registered by the local authority.

One factory in the district carrying on upholstery work is registered by the Council. The registration provisions of the Act do not apply to premises where remaking and reconditioning of articles is carried on. There are no premises in the district where rag flock is manufactured. Four visits were made to the registered premises and three samples of filling materials, purchased under warranty, submitted for analysis, all of which satisfied the tests laid down by the Regulations.

## SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933 SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1954

These Acts prohibit the slaughtering and stunning of animals except by licensed slaughtermen, and now require all animals to be stunned by means of a mechanically operated instrument prior to slaughter.

Licences granted to slaughtermen after 1st October, 1954, must specify the kinds of animals which may be slaughtered and the types of stunning instrument which may be used. Licences are valid for one year only (instead of three years) and any licence granted for the slaughter of horses is valid only in the district of the local authority granting the licence.

During the year one new licence was granted, making a total of nine persons now licensed by the Council to slaughter under this Act. One licence was renewed during the year.



## RODENT CONTROL

The Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949, places responsibilities on Local Authorities with regard to destruction of rats and mice. Under this Act the Local Authority is responsible for ensuring that all land and premises, including farms, is kept free from rodent infestation and it is pleasing to record the co-operation given by the officers of the Lancashire Agricultural Executive Committee in dealing with the latter type of premises.

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Food Infestation Division, two treatments of the sewers in the Golborne portion of the district were carried out and showed good results, but negative results were obtained on the new sewerage system in Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth, and baiting was discontinued after a 10% test bait had been carried out.

The number of sewer manholes found to be infested was two on each of the two treatments, a considerably lower level of infestation than the previous year (10) and somewhat less than the average of the past few years.

Whilst the Council have continued to give a free service for the treatment of rodent infestations found on dwelling houses, a charge has been made for treating business premises on the basis of the actual cost of labour, bait and poisons, plus 20%. It was not found necessary to serve any Statutory Notices under the Act, the co-operation of the public being readily obtained in this work by informal notification.

The total number of infestations found and treated during the year (117) shows a considerable increase over the previous year (79), which is largely accounted for by the increase in the number of infestations on dwelling houses from 50 in 1953 to 82 during the period under review. Although the number of infestations have increased, the severity and extent of the infested areas has been considerably reduced, which is due in some measure to the more effective treatment of surface infestations by Warfarin poison.

Details of Surface Infestations

	No. of Premises Inspected	No. of Infestations Treated	Type of Infestation		
			Rats		Mice Only
			Major	Minor	
Dwelling Houses ...	93	82	-	71	11
Business Premises ..	32	21	-	15	6
Agricultural Premises	54	-	-	-	-
Local Authority Premises ... (Tips, Depots, Sewage Works, Etc.)	25	14	5	9	-

A total of 399 inspections, exclusive of visits for the treatment of premises, were made in connection with the above work during the year.

A number of infestations found on dwelling houses were to some extent due to the keeping of poultry in yards and other unsuitable places, although some improvement was noted in this respect when compared with previous years.

Details of Rat Destruction in Sewers

District	Treatment	Manholes Baited	Manholes Infested	No. Infested last year.
Golborne (central)	No. 1	27	2	2
Golborne "	No. 2	28	2	2
Golborne (outer district)	10% Test Bait	15	Nil	Nil
Lowton, Kenyon and Culcheth	10% Test Bait	32	Nil	Nil

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

During the year three applications were made for licences to place caravans on land in the district for permanent habitation. In two cases licences were granted for a period of one year from 1st January, 1955, and the remaining application was refused. The licences of six existing caravans were renewed, four for a period of one year and two for three months, and three of these were removed during the year, the licences being subsequently cancelled. With two caravans licensed in December, 1953, a total of five caravans were in use for human habitation at the end of the year.

In all cases the caravans licensed have been of the modern trailer caravan type stationed on separate sites, and sanitary accommodation, readily accessible water supply and adequate drainage and paving around the caravan and approach have been provided in accordance with conditions imposed on each licence. Restrictions are also imposed on the erection of other buildings and structures adjoining or adjacent to caravans.

Sixteen visits were made in connection with this work during the year.

There are no licensed camping sites in the district.

## PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951

This act provides for a system of licensing and inspection of all premises used for the sale of pets, including a private dwelling if used for this purpose.

The provisions of the Act require that accommodation used for keeping pets shall be suitable as regards size, temperature, lighting, ventilation and cleanliness, that there is an adequate supply of suitable food and drink and that the animals shall not be sold at too early an age.

Three licences were renewed during the year in respect of premises used for the breeding and sale of rabbits. These premises have been kept in a satisfactory condition during the year. In two other cases which were investigated exemption from licensing was claimed under the pedigree animals clause.



### ANIMAL DESTRUCTION CENTRE

The Council have provided an Animal Destruction Centre at the rear of the Council Offices, Lowton, for the destruction of unwanted domestic animals. A modern dual purpose electrocution chamber is in operation and for a nominal charge cats and dogs are instantaneously and painlessly destroyed, a service which continues to be greatly appreciated by the public. During the year 50 dogs and 22 cats have been destroyed. The carcasses are removed and properly disposed of.

### PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS (AMENDMENT) ACT, 1907 - SECTION 86

#### Dealers in Old Metal and Marine Store Dealers

The provisions of the above Section which relate to the registration of dealers in old metal and marine store dealers are now in operation and one person and his premises were registered for this purpose during the year.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937

The number of factories on the register at the end of the year is as follows:-

Rayon Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cotton Manufacture	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Preserves and Sugar Confectionery	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Engineers	....	...	...	...	...	...	7
Boot and Shoe Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Printers...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Joiners and Builders...	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Bakers and Confectioners	....	...	...	...	...	...	15
Corn Milling	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Tyre retreading and Rubber Reclamation	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Electrical Repairs and Fitments	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Cinema Furnisher	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Hospital Laundry	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electricity Transforming	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Building Operations	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Other Works	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Total							<u>62</u>

The requirements of the Factories Act appear to be well observed and in every case defects were remedied without statutory action.

The following tables give details of factory inspections carried out during the year under the provisions of the Factories Act, 1937, and defects dealt with.



## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1954

## Factories Act, 1937

Premises (1)	Number on Register (2)	Number of Inspections (3)	Number of Written Notices (4)	Number of Occupiers Prosecuted (5)
Factories with mechanical power	53	118	9	0
Factories without mechanical power	1	7	0	0
Other Premises	8	19	1	0
Total	62	144	10	0

## SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA, 1954

Factories Act, 1937  
Defects Found

Particulars (1)	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred to H.M. Inspect- or (4)	Referred by H.M. Inspec- tor (5)	No. of Offences in respect of which Prosecu- tions were instituted (6)
Want of cleanli- ness ...	7	8	-	-	-
Ineffective venti- lation ...	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary con- veniences-					
Insufficient	2	1	-	2	-
Unsuitable or defective	3	3	-	2	-
Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other Offences	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	12	12	-	4	-

## SMOKE ABATEMENT

The year has been one of great publicity in the campaign for a cleaner atmosphere. The Report of the Government Committee on Air Pollution and the publication of the Ministry of Health on Mortality and Morbidity during the London Fog in 1952, focussed country wide attention to the causes and effects of atmospheric pollution and the general consensus of opinion is that the atmosphere must be cleared of this pollution at all costs.

During the year fifteen observations were taken of smoke emission from factory chimneys in the district. In each case the amount of smoke emitted has been within the limit prescribed in the bye-laws of 2 minutes black smoke in 30 minutes, excluding bursts of 30 second or less.

Number of factory chimneys in district	...	14
Number of observations taken	... ..	15
Written notices served	... ..	0
Legal proceedings...	... ..	0

  

	<u>Black</u>	<u>Moderate</u>	<u>None</u>
Heaviest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	$\frac{1}{2}$	$11\frac{1}{2}$	18
Lightest emission of smoke during any observation (minutes)	-	$7\frac{1}{2}$	$22\frac{1}{2}$
Average amount of smoke emitted during observations (minutes)	0.13	9.53	20.34
Average amount of smoke emitted during observations in 1953 (minutes)	0.07	9.58	20.35

Although the heaviest smoke emission noted during any observation was less than the previous year, it will be seen that with the exception of a slight increase in black smoke (0.06 min.) the average amount of smoke emitted during all the observations was similar to last year.

Poor and unsuitable fuel, particularly in the winter months, continues to cause some concern to operators of boiler plant in the district and although the labour position has improved somewhat there is still some difficulty in obtaining the right type of person for stoking duties, who, in addition to practical boiler operations, is prepared to undertake theoretical instruction in order that he may be better fitted for this most important task.

The Council are members of the Manchester and District Regional Smoke Abatement Committee, and the National Smoke Abatement Society.

Whilst our efforts have been concerned with industrial smoke, domestic smoke, which is normally discharged at a comparatively low level, is responsible for much more atmospheric pollution than the public generally realize. Whilst a considerable number of improved domestic firegrates have been fitted during the past few years, little progress has been made in the use of smokeless fuels in these grates, which are designed to burn such fuels much more efficiently than coal, and would considerably reduce the amount of atmospheric pollution from this source, which is of vital importance if we are to have a cleaner atmosphere and, particularly, in the reduction and ultimate abolition of smoke fog or "smog" in the winter months.

The present attitude of the public in this matter is largely due to the increased price of solid smokeless fuel compared with coal coupled, in some cases with difficulty of supply, and whilst great strides are being made by the manufacturers of these fuels to provide increased supplies, the voluntary use of these fuels by the public will be limited and the only solution to domestic smoke pollution is the establishment of more smokeless zones or smoke control areas as envisaged by the Beaver Report.

The implementation of the recommendations contained in this Report will be awaited with considerable interest.







